

Elementary Curriculum Resource Consideration  
*Elementary Reframing the Narrative*  
May 2023

Background:

40 educators from across Albemarle County Public elementary schools participated in a yearlong professional development cohort (called *Elementary Reframing the Narrative*), where they partnered with museum, community, and higher education partners to learn whole-truth history and culturally responsive and anti-racist/anti-bias instructional practices. The Elementary Reframing the Narrative cohort experience culminated in an inquiry design model workshop, where teams of teachers at each grade level, K-5, wrote culturally responsive and anti-racist/anti-bias curriculum units tied to the Virginia Standards of Learning and each grade level's pacing guide and curriculum framework. Each curricular unit is wrapped around a compelling question and includes a collection of primary and secondary sources, including trade books, which students will read and analyze in order to make evidence-based claims.

This team of 40 educators and 15 museum, higher education, and community partners were divided into smaller teams, each consisting of 4-8 curriculum writers. The entire Elementary Reframing the Narrative cohort included teachers, instructional coaches, two equity specialists, two library/media specialists, two assistant principals, and two lead coaches. Each smaller team used a common learning resources form to vet each of the following trade books that will be included in the instructional units. In addition, each team considered whether the books they reviewed align with the Albemarle County Public Schools anti-racism curriculum and instruction vetting tool. Four elementary principals reviewed the work and the list of learning resources after the books were vetted by the Elementary Reframing the Narrative cohort.

Over the course of the 2022-2023 school year, the Elementary Reframing the Narrative cohort members piloted these new inquiry units and incorporated each of these trade books into their instruction. The books enhanced their instruction and added to the strength of each inquiry unit.

**Title:** *The Other Side*

**Author:** Jacqueline Woodson

**Illustrator:** E.B. Lewis

**Genre:** Realistic fiction

**Publishing date:** 2001

**Summary:** Two girls, Clover and Annie, become friends in a small segregated community. Written from the perspective of Clover, an African American child of the early 1960s, she describes how she wants to play with Annie, a white child. Clover talks about how the children are not allowed to cross the fence to play with each other. The two children decide if they sit on the fence then they are not breaking the adults' rules. By the end of the summer, they join each other on the other side of the fence. The story ends with the girls hoping that in the future the fence will be gone.

**Highlights from review team:** This picture book gives students examples of fairness and unfairness while acknowledging that people who are different can also share similarities.

**Awards and Recommendations:**

American Library Association Notable Book

Riverbank Review Children's Book of Distinction

Texas Blue Bonnet List

School Library Journal Best Book

Booklist Editor's Choice

New York Public Library's 100 Titles for Reading and Sharing

2001 Time of Wonder Award

International Reading Association Teachers Choices 2002

2004 Louisiana Young Reader's Choice Award (Honor)

2003-2004 Pennsylvania Young Reader's Choice Master List California Young Reader Medal Nominee

2003-2004 South Carolina Book Award Nominee

**Recommended Age(s):** 5 and up (Publishers Weekly)

**Recommended purpose:** Include as a source in a Kindergarten inquiry unit

The review of each resource using the IIAA-F2 Form (scored 0-4) is included below

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b>Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of</b>	<b>4</b>

<i>subject matter</i>	
<i>Timeliness</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Quality of Writing/Production</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Readability</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer etc.</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Supplemental Sources</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource by professional personnel</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>High Degree of potential user appeal</i>	<b>4</b>

***Recommendation:***

Given this review, the Office of Instruction recommends this resource be added to the ACPS Adopted Learning Resource list.

**Title:** *Fair is Fair*

Author: Sonny Varela

Illustrator: Peter Mahr

Genre: Fiction

Publishing date: 2014

*Summary:* This is a story of a zookeeper and how she cares for the animals in the zoo. The animals share how the zookeeper loves them by providing what they each need to eat. The animals find that they are provided with different amounts of food and think that is not fair. They decide to put all their food together and divide the food evenly. Soon they learn that none of the animals received the amount of food that they needed. Through this book, the animals learn that being equally loved doesn't mean that they are treated exactly the same. Rather, fair is when each gets what they need.

*Highlights from review team:* This book is a very concrete example of fairness. The book explores the concept of sharing and that fair isn't always "equal."

*Awards and Recommendations:* None

*Recommended Age(s):* All ages

*Recommended purpose:* Include as a source in a Kindergarten inquiry unit

The review of each resource using the IIAA-F2 Form (scored 0-4) is included below

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b><i>Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of subject matter</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Timeliness</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Quality of Writing/Production</i></b>	<b>3</b>
<b><i>Readability</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer etc.</i></b>	<b>No reviews</b>
<b><i>Supplemental Sources</i></b>	<b>4</b>

<i>Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource by professional personnel</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources</i>	<i>No reviews</i>
<i>High Degree of potential user appeal</i>	<i>4</i>

***Recommendation:***

**Given this review, the Office of Instruction recommends this resource be added to the ACPS Adopted Learning Resource list.**

**Title: *Sometimes People March***

Author: Tessa Allen

Illustrator: Tessa Allen

Genre: Informational

Publishing date: 2020

*Summary:* This picture book explains why people march together over causes they believe in. It shares what marches may look like and ways people resist. The core belief of doing something together to promote change is the key concept. This book communicates through words and pictures how moving together can create change.

*Highlights from review team:* This book discusses how to get your voice heard by marching for human rights. It supports the idea of fairness.

*Awards and Recommendations:*

Cooperative Children's Book Center Selection, 2021

A 2021 NCSS Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People

*Recommended Age(s):* Grades K-4 (School Library Journal)

*Recommended purpose:* Include as a source in a Kindergarten inquiry unit

The review of each resource using the IIAA-F2 Form (scored 0-4) is included below

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b><i>Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of subject matter</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Timeliness</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Quality of Writing/Production</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Readability</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer etc.</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Supplemental Sources</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource by professional personnel</i></b>	<b>4</b>

<i>Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>High Degree of potential user appeal</i>	<i>4</i>

***Recommendation:***

**Given this review, the Office of Instruction recommends this resource be added to the ACPS Adopted Learning Resource list.**

**Title: *All the Way to the Top: How One Girl's Fight for Americans with Disabilities Changed Everything***

Author: Annette Bay Pimentel

Illustrator: Nabi Ali

Genre: Biography

Publishing date: 2020

*Summary:* This biography provides the story of Jennifer Keelan-Chaffins, a child in the 1980s with cerebral palsy, who was directly involved in the disability rights movement. The story describes her struggle to gain access to buildings (schools, libraries, etc.) and her determination to make sure that all other children did not feel left out as she did. She traveled to protests all over the country and finally attended the protest in Washington, D.C. for the Americans with Disabilities Act being voted on in Congress. She crawled up the steps at the Capitol to make her point. The bill passed in Congress and became law. The book also provides an appendix with historical events, timelines, pictures, and a bibliography.

*Highlights from review team:* This book reinforces the idea of fairness and unfairness and shows the agency of a little girl with disabilities who is fighting for equitable access for all people with disabilities.

*Awards and Recommendations:*

A 2021 NCSS Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People  
2021 Schneider Family Book Award Young Children's Honor Book  
Rise: Feminist Book Project Nominee  
Junior Library Guild Selection

*Recommended Age(s):* 4-10 (Kirkus Reviews)

*Recommended purpose:* Include as a source in a Kindergarten inquiry unit

The review of each resource using the IIAA-F2 Form (scored 0-4) is included below

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b><i>Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of subject matter</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Timeliness</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Quality of Writing/Production</i></b>	<b>4</b>



<i>Readability</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer etc.</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Supplemental Sources</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource by professional personnel</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>High Degree of potential user appeal</i>	<b>4</b>

***Recommendation:***

Given this review, the Office of Instruction recommends this resource be added to the ACPS Adopted Learning Resource list.

**Title: *A Kids Book About Belonging***

Author: Kevin Carroll

Illustrator: None

Genre: Informational/conceptual

Publishing date: 2019

*Summary:* This book explores the concept of belonging. It describes what it feels like to belong and what it feels like not to belong. The author suggests that belonging starts with understanding and knowing yourself. When you belong to yourself, then you can belong with others who know you as you are.

*Highlights from review team:* This book cultivates understanding of what it means to “belong” through simple language and examples. The author has published read-alouds on YouTube and GoNoodle. \*Note: This is a self-published book, and we were not able to find reviews through our Library databases. It has very favorable reviews from the community.

*Awards and Recommendations:* None

*Recommended Age(s):* 5 and up (from publisher)

*Recommended purpose:* Include as a source in a Kindergarten inquiry unit

The review of each resource using the IIAA-F2 Form (scored 0-4) is included below

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b><i>Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of subject matter</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Timeliness</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Quality of Writing/Production</i></b>	<b>3</b>
<b><i>Readability</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer etc.</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Supplemental Sources</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource by professional personnel</i></b>	<b>3</b>

<i>Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources</i>	<i>See note</i>
<i>High Degree of potential user appeal</i>	<i>4</i>

***Recommendation:***

**Given this review, the Office of Instruction recommends this resource be added to the ACPS Adopted Learning Resource list.**

**Title: *Hot Pot Night!***

Author: Vincent Chen

Illustrator: Vincent Chen

Genre: Realistic fiction

Publishing date: 2020

*Summary:* A Taiwanese American child brings his diverse neighbors together to make a tasty communal meal. Together, they cook up a steaming family dinner that celebrates community, cooperation, and culture.

*Highlights from review team:* Very inclusive book that helps to reinforce the concept of community. Brings Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) perspectives into curriculum and instruction.

*Awards and Recommendations:* A 2021 National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People

*Recommended Age(s):* Grades PreK-K (School Library Journal)

*Recommended purpose:* Include as a source in a Kindergarten inquiry unit

The review of each resource using the IIAA-F2 Form (scored 0-4) is included below

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b><i>Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of subject matter</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Timeliness</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Quality of Writing/Production</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Readability</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer etc.</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Supplemental Sources</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource by professional personnel</i></b>	<b>4</b>

<i>Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>High Degree of potential user appeal</i>	<i>4</i>

***Recommendation:***

**Given this review, the Office of Instruction recommends this resource be added to the ACPS Adopted Learning Resource list.**

**Title: *Whose Hands Are These: A Community Helper Guessing Book***

Author: Miranda Paul

Illustrator: Luciana Navarro Powell

Genre: Informational

Publishing date: 2016

*Summary:* This picture book, written in a picture/riddle format, asks readers to guess “whose hands are these?” Eleven occupations (farmers, cooks, police, scientists, potters, news reporters, mechanics, architects, referees, physicians, and teachers) are highlighted with examples of how each occupation’s hands help their community. The appendix has a list of “helping hands” found in the book with a description of their work.

*Highlights from review team:* Read-aloud to support the concepts of community and belonging. Children will use vocabulary and context clues to identify different careers in their community. The variety of careers presented goes beyond the typical and includes architects, farmers, and news reporters.

*Awards and Recommendations:* International Literacy Association Teachers’ Choices Reading List

*Recommended Age(s):* 3-7 (Kirkus Reviews)

*Recommended purpose:* Include as a source in a Kindergarten inquiry unit

The review of each resource using the IIAA-F2 Form (scored 0-4) is included below

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b><i>Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of subject matter</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Timeliness</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Quality of Writing/Production</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Readability</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer etc.</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Supplemental Sources</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource</i></b>	<b>4</b>

<i>by professional personnel</i>	
<i>Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>High Degree of potential user appeal</i>	<b>4</b>

***Recommendation:***

**Given this review, the Office of Instruction recommends this resource be added to the ACPS Adopted Learning Resource list.**

**Title: *On the Trapline***

Author: David A. Robertson

Illustrator: Julie Flett

Genre: Realistic fiction

Publishing date: 2021

*Summary:* A boy and Moshom, his grandpa, take a trip together to visit a place of great meaning to Moshom. A trapline is where people hunt and live off the land, and it was where Moshom grew up. As they embark on their northern journey, the child repeatedly asks his grandfather, "Is this your trapline?" Along the way, the boy finds himself imagining what life was like two generations ago -- a life that appears to be both different from and similar to his life now. This is a story about memory, imagination, and intergenerational connection that captures the experience of a young child's wonder as he is introduced to places and stories that hold meaning for his family.

*Highlights from review team:*

This book is from the point of view of a little boy with his grandfather. The grandfather reflects on his own childhood of living off the land as an indigenous boy. The text is written in a child-friendly way that is easy to understand. The book teaches indigenous vocabulary, which ties to the 1st grade inquiry on Virginia and indigenous peoples.

*Awards and Recommendations:*

Winner of the 2021 Governor General's Literary Award for Young People's Literature — Illustrated Books

Named one of School Library Journal's CaldeNott Books (2021)

A CCBC Best Book for Kids and Teens, Fall 2021 — Starred Pick

A Horn Book 2021 Best Kids Book of the Year

A New York Public Library Best Book for Kids (2021)

A Canadian Children's Book Centre Favourite Book of the Year (2021)

A Quill & Quire Kids' Book of the Year (2021)

An American Indians in Children's Literature Best Book of 2021

An Evanston Public Library Blueberry List pick

Starred reviews in Publishers Weekly, Kirkus Reviews, & The Horn

*Recommended Age(s):* 5-10 (Kirkus Reviews)

*Recommended purpose:* Include as a source in a 1st grade inquiry unit

The review of each resource using the IIAA-F2 Form (scored 0-4) is included below



<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b><i>Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of subject matter</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Timeliness</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Quality of Writing/Production</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Readability</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer etc.</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Supplemental Sources</i></b>	<b>3</b>
<b><i>Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource by professional personnel</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>High Degree of potential user appeal</i></b>	<b>4</b>

***Recommendation:***

Given this review, the Office of Instruction recommends this resource be added to the ACPS Adopted Learning Resource list.

**Title:** *Isabella Gibbons: Through Her Eyes*

**Author:** Marc Boston

**Illustrator:** Araina Danielle Asher

**Genre:** Biography

**Publishing date:** 2022

**Summary:** The true story of Isabella Gibbons is one of hope, inspiration, and unwavering courage. From enslaved laborer to school teacher, Isabella Gibbons transformed tragedy to triumph.

**Highlights from review team:** This book was authored by a local Black children’s book author, Marc Boston. Dr. Jalane Schmidt of UVA’s Memory Project contributed to the historical sourcing. This book is an excellent representation of the life of Isabella Gibbons, who was enslaved at UVA, learned how to read (illegally), and then became a teacher at the Jefferson School after emancipation. The book highlights the agency, excellence, joy, and resistance of Isabella Gibbons and explores fairness and unfairness (which aligns with both sides of the anti-racism tree). This book ties to a 1st grade inquiry unit on Vinegar Hill and the rise of the Black middle class post-emancipation and during the Era of Jim Crow segregation.

**Awards and Recommendations:** None

**Recommended Age(s):** None available (children’s picture book; not yet independently reviewed)

**Recommended purpose:** Include as a source in a 1st grade inquiry unit

The review of each resource using the IIAA-F2 Form (scored 0-4) is included below

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b><i>Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of subject matter</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Timeliness</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Quality of Writing/Production</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Readability</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer etc.</i></b>	<b>4</b>

<i>Supplemental Sources</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource by professional personnel</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources</i>	<b>N/A (local author - book just published)</b>
<i>High Degree of potential user appeal</i>	<b>4</b>

**Recommendation:**

Given this review, the Office of Instruction recommends this resource be added to the ACPS Adopted Learning Resource list.

**Title:** *Juneteenth for Mazie*

**Author:** Floyd Cooper

**Illustrator:** Floyd Cooper

**Genre:** Realistic fiction

**Publishing date:** 2016

**Summary:** This is a children’s book with a story within a story. Mazie is a small African American child who is being told “no” for many requests (cookies, stay outside, stay up later) as she gets ready for bed. Mazie's dad reminds her that Juneteenth is the next day and they are going to celebrate. Mazie asks, “Why are we celebrating?” Mazie’s dad tells her the story of her great-great-great-grandpa Mose, an enslaved field worker in Galveston, Texas. He tells her of the generations after him and before her that pushed for change and each year celebrated their freedom. Dad closes with “it’s your turn to celebrate and to remember.”

**Highlights from review team:** *Juneteenth for Mazie* introduces young children to the premise of Juneteenth in a way that is developmentally appropriate, connects to typical experiences for children in early elementary school, and uplifts the joy and agency of African American citizens.

**Awards and Recommendations:** A 2016 NCSS Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People

**Recommended Age(s):** 4-9 (Kirkus Reviews)

**Recommended purpose:** Include as a source in a 2nd grade inquiry unit

The review of each resource using the IIAA-F2 Form (scored 0-4) is included below

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b><i>Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of subject matter</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Timeliness</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Quality of Writing/Production</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Readability</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer etc.</i></b>	<b>4</b>

<i>Supplemental Sources</i>	<b>3</b>
<i>Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource by professional personnel</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>High Degree of potential user appeal</i>	<b>4</b>

***Recommendation:***

**Given this review, the Office of Instruction recommends this resource be added to the ACPS Adopted Learning Resource list.**

**Title:** *Our Favorite Day of the Year*

**Author:** A. E. Ali

**Illustrator:** Rahele Jomepour Bell

**Genre:** Realistic fiction

**Publishing date:** 2020

**Summary:** This picture book sets a foundational understanding that people celebrate many different holidays. When Musa goes to kindergarten, he meets three classmates at his table, Moises, Mo, and Kevin. The teacher tells the children they will be sharing their favorite day of the year. The children begin sharing their favorite days, Eid al-Fitr, Las Posadas, Rosh Hashanah, and Pi Day, and quickly learn the many ways that others celebrate their different holidays. Each child shares their holiday and the food, activities, and traditions associated with the holiday. At the end of the school year, Musa realizes he can celebrate with his many friends.

**Highlights from review team:** In this story of friendship and celebrating differences, young readers can discover how entering a new friendship with an open mind and sharing parts of yourself brings people together. This picture book sets a foundational understanding that people celebrate many different holidays.

**Awards and Recommendations:**

Starred reviews in Publishers Weekly, Kirkus Reviews, School Library Journal, Shelf-Awareness, & BookPage

Center for the Study of Multicultural Children’s Literature Book List

**Recommended Age(s):** 4-8 (Kirkus Reviews)

**Recommended purpose:** Include as a source in a 2nd grade inquiry unit

The review of each resource using the IIAA-F2 Form (scored 0-4) is included below

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b><i>Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of subject matter</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Timeliness</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Quality of Writing/Production</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Readability</i></b>	<b>4</b>

<i>Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer etc.</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Supplemental Sources</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource by professional personnel</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>High Degree of potential user appeal</i>	<b>4</b>

***Recommendation:***

**Given this review, the Office of Instruction recommends this resource be added to the ACPS Adopted Learning Resource list.**

**Title: *We Are Water Protectors***

Author: Carole Lindstrom

Illustrator: Michaela Goade

Genre: Fiction

Publishing date: 2020

*Summary:* This colorful picture book written from the perspective of an indigenous child discusses Mother Nature’s need for clean water. She speaks of a black snake who will destroy the land by destroying the water. She rallies her people together to stand as one to keep the black snake away from her village. She urges the reader to protect the water and stand together to fight the black snake. The appendix acknowledges the origin of this story and the term “water protectors.”

*Highlights from review team:* Extremely beautiful illustrations. Recommended by the Virginia Tribal Education Consortium (VTEC). Discusses the importance of caring for our water. Centers indigenous perspectives. Available in Spanish.

*Awards and Recommendations:*

2021 Caldecott Medal winner

2021 Golden Kite Award for picture book text

A 2021 Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People

Center for the Study of Multicultural Children’s Literature Book Selection, 2020

2021 Jane Addams Children’s Book Award Winner

Charlotte Huck Award Honoree, 2021

Notable Books for a Global Society Selection, 2021

Kirkus Prize for Young Readers’ Literature Finalist, 2020

School Library Journal Best Books of the Year Selection, 2020

Starred reviews in Kirkus Reviews, Booklist, Publishers Weekly, & BookPage

*Recommended Age(s):* 5-12 (Kirkus Reviews)

*Recommended purpose:* Include as a source in a 2nd grade inquiry unit

The review of each resource using the IIAA-F2 Form (scored 0-4) is included below

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b><i>Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of subject matter</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Timeliness</i></b>	<b>4</b>



<i>Quality of Writing/Production</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Readability</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer etc.</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Supplemental Sources</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource by professional personnel</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>High Degree of potential user appeal</i>	<i>4</i>

***Recommendation:***

**Given this review, the Office of Instruction recommends this resource be added to the ACPS Adopted Learning Resource list.**

**Title: *Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story***

Author: Kevin Noble Maillard

Illustrator: Juana Martinez-Neal

Genre: Informational

*Publishing date:* 2019

*Summary:* Maillard explores the rich and varied cultures of modern Native Americans through the lens of fry bread. Each section opens with “Fry Bread” in red capital letters, followed by short lyrical verses tying the food to different aspects of indigenous life.

*Highlights from review team:* This book is highly acclaimed. It was recommended by the Virginia Tribal Education Consortium (VTEC). The book centers indigenous perspectives and ties to the 3rd grade inquiry unit on similarities and differences.

*Awards and Recommendations:*

Winner of the 2020 Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Medal

A 2020 American Indian Youth Literature Picture Book Honor Winner

A 2020 Charlotte Huck Recommended Book

A Publishers Weekly Best Picture Book of 2019

A Kirkus Reviews Best Picture Book of 2019

A School Library Journal Best Picture Book of 2019

A Booklist 2019 Editor's Choice

A Shelf Awareness Best Children's Book of 2019

A Goodreads Choice Award 2019 Semifinalist

A Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Book of 2019

A National Public Radio (NPR) Best Book of 2019

An NCTE Notable Poetry Book

A 2020 NCSS Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People

A 2020 American Library Association Notable Children's Book

A 2020 International Literacy Association Notable Book for a Global Society

2020 Bank Street College of Education Best Children's Books of the Year List

One of NPR's 100 Favorite Books for Young Readers

Nominee, Pennsylvania Young Readers Choice Award 2022-2022

Nominee, Illinois Monarch Award 2022

*Recommended Age(s):* 3-8 (Kirkus Reviews)

*Recommended purpose:* Include as a source in a 3rd grade inquiry unit

The review of each resource using the IIAA-F2 Form (scored 0-4) is included below

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b><i>Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of subject matter</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Timeliness</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Quality of Writing/Production</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Readability</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer etc.</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Supplemental Sources</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource by professional personnel</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>High Degree of potential user appeal</i></b>	<b>4</b>

**Recommendation:**

Given this review, the Office of Instruction recommends this resource be added to the ACPS Adopted Learning Resource list.

**Title:** *Equality's Call*

**Author:** Deborah Diesen

**Illustrator:** Magdalena Mora

**Genre:** History

**Publishing date:** 2020

**Summary:** This rhyming picture book shares the story of voting rights in America. The founders of the United States declared that consent of the governed was a key part of their plan for the new nation. But for many years, only white men of wealth were allowed to vote. The refrain, "We heard ever louder Equality's call: A right isn't a right till it's granted to all." The book tells the history of the slavery ending, voting for women, and the Voting Rights Acts. The appendix shares the voting related amendments to the Constitution and legislation as well as a list of voting rights activists.

**Highlights from review team:** This book ties to the 3rd grade inquiry unit on transforming the community through government and voting. There are beautiful illustrations, and the book is representative in portraying great diversity.

**Awards and Recommendations:**

A 2021 NCSS Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People

Kansas NEA Reading Circle List Primary Title

South Carolina Picture Book Award Nominee

Eureka! Excellence in Nonfiction Award Honor Title (CA)

Florida Literacy Association Children's Book Award Nominee

**Recommended Age(s):** 5-9 (Kirkus Reviews)

**Recommended purpose:** Include as a source in a 3rd grade inquiry unit

The review of each resource using the IIAA-F2 Form (scored 0-4) is included below

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b><i>Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of subject matter</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Timeliness</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Quality of Writing/Production</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Readability</i></b>	<b>4</b>

<i>Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer etc.</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Supplemental Sources</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource by professional personnel</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>High Degree of potential user appeal</i>	<i>4</i>

***Recommendation:***

**Given this review, the Office of Instruction recommends this resource be added to the ACPS Adopted Learning Resource list.**

**Title: *Say Something!***

Author: Peter H. Reynolds

Illustrator: Peter H. Reynolds

Genre: Informational/conceptual

Publishing date: 2019

*Summary:* This picture book encourages the reader to find their own voice. Using “if”/“then” cadence, the author suggests that if you see something (someone lonely, an empty canvas, someone being hurt, etc.), you should say something. The reader is encouraged to find their voice and say what they are thinking and feeling. The book ends with “Your voice can inspire, heal, and transform. Your voice can change the world. Are you ready to say something?”

*Highlights from review team:* Available in Spanish. This book highlights agency and the idea that young people can positively impact their communities.

*Awards and Recommendations:* Notable Children’s Books in the Language Arts Selection, 2020

*Recommended Age(s):* 4-8 (Kirkus Reviews)

*Recommended purpose:* Include as a source in a 3rd grade inquiry unit

The review of each resource using the IIAA-F2 Form (scored 0-4) is included below

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b><i>Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of subject matter</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Timeliness</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Quality of Writing/Production</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Readability</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer etc.</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Supplemental Sources</i></b>	<b>3</b>
<b><i>Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource by professional personnel</i></b>	<b>4</b>

<i>Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>High Degree of potential user appeal</i>	<i>4</i>

***Recommendation:***

**Given this review, the Office of Instruction recommends this resource be added to the ACPS Adopted Learning Resource list.**

**Title:** *Our Class is a Family*

**Author:** Shannon Olsen

**Illustrator:** Sandie Sonke

**Genre:** Informational/conceptual

**Publishing date:** 2020

**Summary:** This rhyming picture book begins with the many configurations of a family. It suggests that “our classroom” is a place where we spend many hours and our classroom community is like a family. The author stresses that a classroom is a place where it’s safe to celebrate differences, make mistakes, try new things, and stick together to grow and learn.

**Highlights from review team:** This book, written by a classroom teacher, supports identity and community. The book sets the stage for an exploration of the classroom as a community. Available in Spanish.

**Awards and Recommendations:** None

**Recommended Age(s):** All ages

**Recommended purpose:** Include as a source in a 4th grade inquiry unit

The review of each resource using the IIAA-F2 Form (scored 0-4) is included below

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b><i>Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of subject matter</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Timeliness</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Quality of Writing/Production</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Readability</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer etc.</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Supplemental Sources</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource by professional personnel</i></b>	<b>4</b>



<i>Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources</i>	<i>No reviews</i>
<i>High Degree of potential user appeal</i>	<i>4</i>

***Recommendation:***

**Given this review, the Office of Instruction recommends this resource be added to the ACPS Adopted Learning Resource list.**

**Title: *Just Ask: Be Different, Be Brave, Be You***

Author: Sonia Sotomayor

Illustrator: Rafael López

Genre: Informational

Publishing date: 2019

*Summary:* In *Just Ask*, United States Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor celebrates the different abilities kids (and people of all ages) have. Using her own experience as a child who was diagnosed with diabetes, Justice Sotomayor writes about children with all sorts of challenges and looks at the special powers those kids have as well. As the kids work together to build a community garden, asking questions of each other along the way, this book encourages readers to do the same.

*Highlights from review team:* This book is inclusive of multiple perspectives and lends a valuable lesson to students about how to find out about differences and validate other people's identities and cultural lenses. Available in Spanish.

*Awards and Recommendations:*

Schneider Family Book Award Winner, 2020

An International Literacy Association Teachers' Choices Reading List Selection, 2020

Cooperative Children's Book Center Selection, 2020

Starred review in Booklist

*Recommended Age(s):* 4-8 (Kirkus Reviews)

*Recommended purpose:* Include as a source in a 4th grade inquiry unit

The review of each resource using the IIAA-F2 Form (scored 0-4) is included below

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b><i>Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of subject matter</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Timeliness</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Quality of Writing/Production</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Readability</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist,</i></b>	<b>4</b>

<i>composer/producer etc.</i>	
<i>Supplemental Sources</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource by professional personnel</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>High Degree of potential user appeal</i>	<b>4</b>

**Recommendation:**

Given this review, the Office of Instruction recommends this resource be added to the ACPS Adopted Learning Resource list.

**Title: *The Name Jar***

Author: Yangsook Choi

Illustrator: Yangsook Choi

Genre: Realistic fiction

Publishing date: 2001

*Summary:* Having just moved from Korea, Unhei is anxious about fitting in. So instead of introducing herself on the first day of school, she decides to choose an American name from a glass jar. But while Unhei thinks of being a Suzy, Laura, or Amanda, nothing feels right. With the help of a new friend, Unhei will learn that the best name is her own.

*Highlights from review team:* From acclaimed creator Yangsook Choi comes the bestselling classic about finding the courage to be yourself and being proud of your background. This book ties to the 4th grade inquiry unit on community and identity. It is inclusive of Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) perspectives and centers agency, excellence, identity, and joy.

*Awards and Recommendations:*

Cooperative Children's Book Center Selection, 2002

Notable Books for a Global Society Selection, 2002

*Recommended Age(s):* 4-8

*Recommended purpose:* Include as a source in a 4th grade inquiry unit

The review of each resource using the IIAA-F2 Form (scored 0-4) is included below

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b><i>Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of subject matter</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Timeliness</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Quality of Writing/Production</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Readability</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer etc.</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Supplemental Sources</i></b>	<b>4</b>

<i>Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource by professional personnel</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>High Degree of potential user appeal</i>	<i>4</i>

***Recommendation:***

**Given this review, the Office of Instruction recommends this resource be added to the ACPS Adopted Learning Resource list.**

**Title: *No Voice Too Small: Fourteen Young Americans Making History***

Author: Lindsay H. Metcalf, Keila V. Dawson, & Jeannette Bradley (editors)

Illustrator: Jeannette Bradley

Genre: Nonfiction poetry

Publishing date: 2021

*Summary:* This text profiles 14 young people who are a positive influence for change. Each profile is written as a poem and shares how each young person took steps to improve their communities and country. The fourteen profiled are: DJ Annie Red: Anti-Bullying Ambassador; Zia Ahmed: Connect to Stop Hate; Judy Adams: Collecting dimes for Down Syndrome; Levi Draheim: Climate Change; Jazz Jennings: Transgender soccer rule changes; Cierra Fields: Speaking truth; Noah Barnes: Walk across US for childhood diabetes; Jasilyn Charger: Water protector; Mari Copeny: Safe water in Flint, Michigan; Zach Wahls: Scouts for Equality; Nza-Ari Khepra: Gun violence; Viridiana Sanchez Santos: Organized peaceful protest of immigration law; Adora Svitak: What Adults Can Learn from Kids; and Marley Dias: Media campaign to collect books with characters that look like her. The appendix contains information on poetry forms.

*Highlights from review team:* This book is inclusive of multiple perspectives. Students will read excerpts of this book as they explore whether their classroom community validates all identities. This book connects with the Albemarle County Public Schools policy on the treatment of transgender and gender expansive students in addition to the anti-racism policy.

*Awards and Recommendations:*

A 2021 NCSS Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People  
Notable Poetry and Verse Novels Selection, 2021  
Starred review in Kirkus

*Recommended Age(s):* 6-12 (Kirkus Reviews)

*Recommended purpose:* Include as a source in a 4th grade inquiry unit

The review of each resource using the IIAA-F2 Form (scored 0-4) is included below

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b><i>Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of subject matter</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Timeliness</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Quality of Writing/Production</i></b>	<b>4</b>

<i>Readability</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer etc.</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Supplemental Sources</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource by professional personnel</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>High Degree of potential user appeal</i>	<b>4</b>

***Recommendation:***

Given this review, the Office of Instruction recommends this resource be added to the ACPS Adopted Learning Resource list.

**Title: *Areli is a Dreamer: A True Story***

Author: Areli Morales

Illustrator: Luisa Uribe

Genre: Autobiography

Publishing date: 2021

*Summary:* This autobiography begins with Arelia living in Mexico with her grandmother and her parents in America. When her parents send for her, she is sad to leave her grandmother and family. She finds everything in New York to be very different than in Mexico. Gone are the Saturdays at her grandmother's house filled with cousins and sunshine. Instead things are busy, fast, and noisy. Areli's limited English has classmates making fun of her but she works hard in school and eventually becomes able to speak and read English fluently. While she knows she is not a full citizen, she does not feel "illegal." During a trip to Ellis Island, she begins to understand how others have paved the way for immigrants. She dreams of all the things she might do someday in this new country. Her DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) application is eventually approved, and she is now living her American dream.

*Highlights from review team:* Written by a DACA recipient, this book builds empathy and gives voice to children who are aware of their citizenship status and have fear of being deported from the United States. The book discusses struggles and overcoming obstacles, which highlights resistance in the face of unfairness. Available in Spanish.

*Awards and Recommendations:*

A 2022 NCSS Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People  
Association for Library Service to Children Notable Children's Books, 2022  
Cooperative Children's Book Center Selection, 2022

*Recommended Age(s):* 4-8 (Kirkus Reviews)

*Recommended purpose:*

Include as a source in a 4th grade inquiry unit

The review of each resource using the IIAA-F2 Form (scored 0-4) is included below

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b><i>Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of subject matter</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Timeliness</i></b>	<b>4</b>



<i>Quality of Writing/Production</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Readability</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer etc.</i>	<b>N/A (new author)</b>
<i>Supplemental Sources</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource by professional personnel</i>	<b>3</b>
<i>Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>High Degree of potential user appeal</i>	<b>4</b>

**Recommendation:**

Given this review, the Office of Instruction recommends this resource be added to the ACPS Adopted Learning Resource list

**Title:** *My Name is James Madison Hemings*

**Author:** Jonah Winter

**Illustrator:** Terry Widener

**Genre:** Historical fiction

**Publishing date:** 2016

**Summary:** This historical fiction picture book tells the story of James Madison Hemings, the son of Sally Hemings who grew up enslaved on a Virginia plantation. James tells of his boyhood and his trying to understand how his father can be both his father and his enslaver. He is told by his mother that his father is both. He describes how his family receives some special treatment like not working in the fields, but his name is in the “Farm Book” where property is recorded. He believes that his family gets special treatment because of a promise that was made by his father/enslaver to his mother. He tells of learning to play the violin, to read, and to make beautiful furniture. After his father dies, he is freed and moves to Ohio to become well-known for his carpentry skills. At the end of the book, it’s revealed that Thomas Jefferson is his father. The author’s note gives the background for the story as an James Madison Heming’s 1873 newspaper interview.

**Highlights from review team:** This book is a first-person account of James Madison Hemings. It uncovers a hidden historical story and leads into great conversations around new narratives of enslaved people. This book helps to honor multiple perspectives.

**Awards and Recommendations:**

A 2017 NCSS Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People  
Junior Library Guild Selection, 2017

**Recommended Age(s):** 5-9 (Kirkus Reviews)

**Recommended purpose:** Include as a source in a 5th grade inquiry unit

The review of each resource using the IIAA-F2 Form (scored 0-4) is included below

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b><i>Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of subject matter</i></b>	<b>3</b>
<b><i>Timeliness</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Quality of Writing/Production</i></b>	<b>4</b>

<i>Readability</i>	<b>3</b>
<i>Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer etc.</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Supplemental Sources</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource by professional personnel</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources</i>	<b>4</b>
<i>High Degree of potential user appeal</i>	<b>4</b>

***Recommendation:***

Given this review, the Office of Instruction recommends this resource be added to the ACPS Adopted Learning Resource list.

**Title:** *Back of the Bus*

**Author:** Aaron Reynolds

**Illustrator:** Floyd Cooper

**Genre:** Historical fiction

**Publishing date:** 2010

**Summary:** This historical fiction book recounts Rosa Parks's refusal to give up her seat through the eyes of a small African American boy. He tells the story of how he is riding in the back of the bus passing the time by watching his marble roll up and down the aisle. There is a commotion at the front of the bus, and the bus does not move. The driver refuses to move the bus because Mrs. Parks will not give up her seat in the front and move to the back. He describes how he feels when she is arrested, how his mother reacts, and what he thinks as the bus moves forward after Rosa Parks's arrest.

**Highlights from review team:** With childlike words and illustrations, the author and illustrator recount Rosa Parks's act of resistance through a child's eyes. Students will read this book as well as primary sources about Rosa Parks's defiance of the unjust law and subsequent arrest.

**Awards and Recommendations:** Association for Library Service to Children Notable Children's Book Selection, 2011

**Recommended Age(s):** 5-9 (Kirkus Reviews)

**Recommended purpose:** Include as a source in a 5th grade inquiry unit

The review of each resource using the IIAA-F2 Form (scored 0-4) is included below

<b>Category</b>	<b>Score</b>
<b><i>Educational Suitability and age appropriateness as related to accuracy of subject matter</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Timeliness</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Quality of Writing/Production</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Readability</i></b>	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Authoritativeness Reputation and significance of the author/artist, composer/producer etc.</i></b>	<b>4</b>

<i>Supplemental Sources</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Favorable Recommendation based on preview and examination of resource by professional personnel</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Favorable reviews found in standard selection sources</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>High Degree of potential user appeal</i>	<i>4</i>

***Recommendation:***

Given this review, the Office of Instruction recommends this resource be added to the ACPS Adopted Learning Resource list.