

Nonfiction

Respect by Julie Murray J179.9 MUR

Respect is an important concept for children to learn and understand at an early age. This title will introduce readers to what respect is through everyday and relatable examples that they are sure to experience.

How To Be Tolerant: a question and answer book about Tolerance by Emily James J179.9 JAM

Learning How to Appreciate Differences by Susan Kent J179.9 KEN

America is truly a melting pot of diversity, and this book reminds children without preaching that diversity is what makes us strong. Urging children to appreciate differences in other people, this book is an invaluable resource for teaching tolerance, understanding, and respect.

Accept and Value Each Person by Cheri J. Meiners J 179.9 MEI

Accept and Value Each Person introduces diversity and related concepts: respecting differences, being inclusive, and appreciating people just the way they are. Includes questions, activities, and games that reinforce the ideas being taught.

A Life Like Mine J305.23 LIF

Looks at what life is like for children of different countries and how each child can fulfill his or her hopes and ambitions no matter how little or much their human rights are infringed.

This is How We Do It by Matt Lamothe J305.23 LAM

Follows the daily lives of seven children from around the world, including such places as Japan, India, Uganda, and Italy, and discusses how schools, meals, and play can be different or similar in different places in the world.

People of the World by Nancy Loewen J320.56 LOE

Celebrates diversity as it introduces different kinds of people from around the world with full-color photographs and rhyming text

Special People, Special Ways by Arlene Maguire J362.4 MAG

Shares a positive image of persons with disabilities.

Light the Candle! Bang the Drum! : a Book of Holidays Around the World by Ann Morris

394.26 MOR

Illustrations and brief text present various holidays celebrated around the world, including New Year's Day, Presidents' Day, Easter, Ramadan, Diwali, Posadas, and Hanukkah.

Books on Diversity and Tolerance

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Picture Books

Everybody Cooks Rice by Nora Dooley J PB DOO

A child is sent to find a younger brother at dinnertime and is introduced to a variety of cultures through encountering the many different ways rice is prepared at different households.

Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns : a Muslim book of colors by Hena Khan J PB PAP KHA

In simple rhyming text a young Muslim girl and her family guide the reader through the traditions and colors of Islam

Say Hello by Rachel Isadora J PB ISA

A little girl greets people in her neighborhood in many different languages.

Drawn Together by Minh Le J PB LE

A boy and his grandfather cross a language and cultural barrier using their shared love of art, storytelling, and fantasy.

Zen Shorts by Jon Muth J PB MUT

When Stillwater the bear moves into the neighborhood, the stories he tells to three siblings teach them to look at the world in new ways.

My Dadima Wears a Sari by Kashmira Sheth J PB SHE

Two young sisters raised in America learn about the beauty and art of wearing a sari from their wise Indian grandmother. Includes instructions on wrapping a sari.

Mommy's Khimar by Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow J PB THO

A young Muslim girl puts on a head scarf and not only feels closer to her mother, she also imagines herself as a queen, the sun, a superhero and more.

Yoko Writes Her Name by Rosemary Wells J PB WELL

Kindergartner Yoko not only learns to write her letters and numbers in English, she shows her teacher and fellow students how to write their names using Japanese calligraphy.

The Day You Begin by Jacqueline Woodson J PB WOO

Other students laugh when Rigoberto, a immigrant from Venezuela, introduces himself but later, he meets Angelina and discovers that he is not the only one who feels like an outsider.



Juvenile Fiction Books

Wishtree by Katherine Applegate J F APP...An old red oak tree tells how he and his crow friend, Bongo, help their human neighbors get along after a threat against an immigrant family is carved into the tree's trunk.

Meet Yasmin by Saadia Faruqi J F FAR ... A very early beginning chapter book series about a charming Pakistani-American girl. Each book is divided into four separate stories in which Yasmin uses her creative energy and high imagination to solve problems.

Listen, Slowly by Thanhha Lai J F LAI ... Assisting her grandmother's investigation of her grandfather's fate during the Vietnam War, Mai struggles to adapt to an unfamiliar culture while redefining her sense of family

Catch a Tiger by the Toe by Ellen Levine J F LEV...In the Bronx, New York, during the McCarthy era, twelve-year-old Jamie keeps a terrible secret about her family, but when the truth is exposed, her parents lose their jobs and she is fired from the school newspaper.

Candlelight for Rebecca by Jacqueline Dembar Greene J F AME...Rebecca's teacher assigns the class to make Christmas decorations--but Rebecca's family is Jewish and doesn't celebrate Christmas. Her teacher tells her that Christmas is a national holiday, for all Americans to celebrate. Although her parents came from Russia, Rebecca knows she's as American as anyone else, even without celebrating Christmas. Could her teacher be wrong? If Rebecca does the project, her family is sure to be upset; if she doesn't, her teacher will be displeased. Then, on the first night of Hanukkah, Rebecca finds kindness in an unexpected place--and learns the real meaning of the holiday season.

Kimchi and Calamari by Rose Kent J F KEN...Adopted from Korea by Italian parents, fourteen-year-old Joseph Calderaro begins to make important self-discoveries about race and family after his social studies teacher assigns an essay on cultural heritage and tracing the past.

Extra Credit by Andrew Clements J F CLE...As letters flow back and forth--between the prairies of Illinois and the mountains of Afghanistan, across cultural and religious divides--sixth-grader Abby, ten-year-old Amira, and eleven-year-old Sadeed begin to speak and listen to each other.