

Summer with a Purpose

Reading Guides

For

Middle and High School

Antiracist Baby

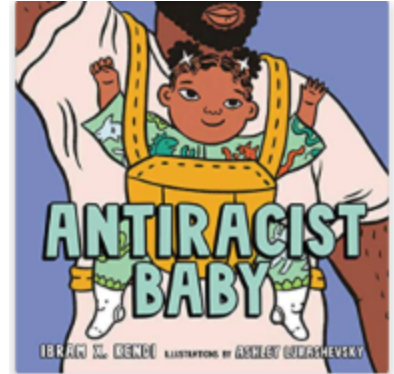
by: Ibram X. Kendi

“Antiracist Baby is bred, *not* born. Antiracist Baby is raised to make society transform.”

This book includes 9 steps for making “equity a reality” which provides a framework that people of all ages can use to dismantle racism.

When you read this book with your child, discuss each step with them at a level that they can understand. Some examples are provided below.

- Teach your child to see color. Talk about the different skin colors that you see throughout the day. In school, at the play-ground, at church, in your family, etc.
- Talk to your child about race and racism. If you see something racist, find a way to talk to your child about it. Ask your child if they have ever seen something racist. Let your child know that they can always talk to you if they witness or are the victim of racism.
- Teach your children about the policies that create racist outcomes.
- Help your child understand that all people are beautiful and worthy of good treatment.
- Find ways for you and your child to celebrate differences. One way to do this is to attend different festivals held by people from a different race/culture than you.
- Confess when being racist. When you realize that you are holding onto a racist idea, admit it. Awareness and naming your mistake disrupts racism.



This Book is Anti-Racist: 20 Lessons on How to Wake Up, Take Action, and Do The Work

by: Tiffany Jewell

This book is divided into four parts and helps young people answer the following questions: Who are you? What is your identity? How can you take action against racism?

While all of the chapters provide important information, the following chapters will help your child understand race, ethnicity, personal racism and institutional racism. If you don't have time to go through all of the activities in the book, these three chapters from section 1 will provide your child with a good foundation.

You and your child can do the activities together or do them separately and discuss them.

Section 1 Waking Up: Understanding and Growing into my Identities

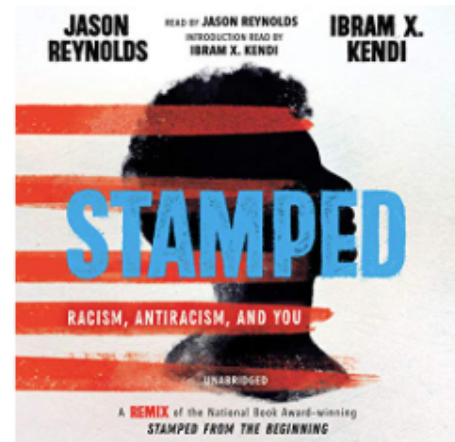
- Chapter 3: What is race? What is ethnicity?
- Chapter 4: What is racism? (Personal)
- Chapter 5: What is racism (Institutional)



Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You

by: Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi

This book is a “remix” of Ibram X. Kendi’s book, *Stamped from the Beginning*. It is a book that examines the history of racism and racist ideas. By examining this history we can better understand the present.



There is an Educator’s Guide that provides discussion questions and activities to go along with this book. Below are some topics for discussion/exploration that you can use in addition to those in the Educator’s Guide. Explore these questions/subjects with your child.

- Starting in chapter 9 the author explains and discusses “uplift suasion” which can be likened to the respectability politics of today. Research respectability politics and examine your relationships with these ideas? What are some examples of “uplift suasion” that you can find in today’s civil rights discourse.
- In chapter 13 (p. 104) Reynolds states that the Union believed the same as the Confederacy. Is this consistent with what you have learned/believe to be true about the Union? If not, can you find evidence that supports this assertion?
- Ida B. Wells-Barnett is mentioned on p. 121. Research Ida B. Wells and her work for black freedom.
- Chapter 20: Read and discuss Dr. King’s “Letter From Birmingham Jail” (mentioned on p. 162). How did Dr. King conflate the antiracists and black separatists?
- Read more about the life and teachings of Malcolm X. His life demonstrates the journey from assimilationists to antiracist. He is a central figure in the black struggle for freedom and is not discussed as much as other leaders like Martin Luther King.
- Research James Baldwin. Read his books and essays.

- Think about your life. Would you consider yourself to be a segregationist, assimilationist, or antiracist? Have you changed position over time like some of the people in the book? If antiracism is the goal, what are some steps that you can take to be an antiracist?