Anselmians Raising Children for Social Justice

Children's Books and Guided Discussions on Racial and Social Justice

Below is a brief list of children's books that can be used to engage children in concepts of racism and social justice. We selected these because they have guides for prompting discussions and getting children to think about and work through these concepts.

Books to Help Build Inclusive Classrooms by the Conscious Kid

"A curated list of teacher-facing materials and evaluation criteria to affirm and reflect students' identities and to help facilitate important conversations about equity, racism, and belonging"
https://www.gstatic.com/gumdrop/consciouskid_inclusivereads.pdf

The Prindle Institute for Ethics – Teaching Children Philosophy

"On this site you will find all the materials you'll need to engage young minds with philosophy and ethics." In particular, the following are related to race and social justice:
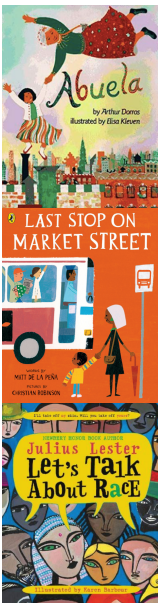
Abuela by Arthur Dorros (immigration):
https://www.teachingchildrenphilosophy.org/BookModule/Abuela

Last Stop on Market Street by Matt De La Pena (diversity, inequity, accommodating difference):
https://www.teachingchildrenphilosophy.org/BookModule/LastStop

Let's Talk About Race by Julius Lester (race, equality):
https://www.teachingchildrenphilosophy.org/BookModule/LetsTalkAboutRace
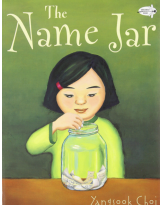
The Name Jar by Yangsook Choi (race, diversity):
https://www.teachingchildrenphilosophy.org/BookModule/TheNameJar
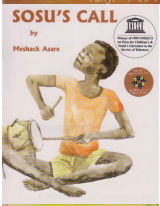
Sosu's Call by Meshack Asare (fairness, prejudice, social/individual responsibility):
https://www.teachingchildrenphilosophy.org/BookModule/SosusCall
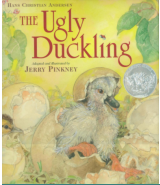
The Ugly Duckling by Jerry Pinkney (difference):
https://www.teachingchildrenphilosophy.org/BookModule/TheUglyDuckling
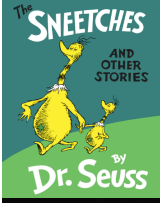
The Sneetches by Dr. Seuss (difference, prejudice):
https://www.teachingchildrenphilosophy.org/BookModule/TheSneetches
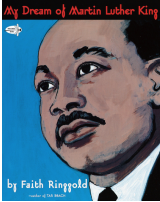
My Dream of Martin Luther King by Faith Ringgold (freedom, equality, race):
https://www.teachingchildrenphilosophy.org/BookModule/MyDreamOfMartinLutherKing