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Read in Color Recommended Reading

Read in Color is an initiative bringing diverse books to Little Free Libraries around the world. On this recommended reading list, you'll find books that provide perspectives on racism and social justice, amplify BIPOC and LGBTQ voices, and incorporate experiences from all identities for all readers. By reading and sharing diverse books, we can increase understanding, empathy, and inclusion. Are you ready to Read in Color?

For more book suggestions, and to sign the Read in Color pledge, visit:
LittleFreeLibrary.org/read-in-color

ANTIRACISM + INCLUSION

EARLY READERS

Antiracist Baby - Ibram X. Kendi
I Promise - LeBron James
Love - Matt de la Peña
Woke Baby - Mahogany L. Browne
Your Name Is a Song - Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow

MIDDLE / YA READERS

All American Boys - Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely
Fresh Ink - Lamar Giles
Stamped: Racism, Antiracism and You - Ibram X. Kendi and Jason Reynolds
The Talk: Conversations About Race, Love & Truth - Wade Hudson & Cheryl Willis Hudson
Woke: A Young Poet's Guide to Justice -

ADULT READERS

How to Be an Antiracist - Ibram X. Kendi
Me and White Supremacy - Layla F. Saad
So You Want to Talk about Race - Ijeoma Oluo
Stamped from the Beginning - Ibram X. Kendi
Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria? - Beverly Daniel Tatum

AFRICAN AMERICAN / BLACK

EARLY READERS

All Because You Matter - Tami Charles
Hair Love - Matthew A. Cherry
I Am Every Good Thing - Derrick Barnes
Sulwe - Lupita Nyong'o
The Undefeated - Kwame Alexander

MIDDLE / YA READERS

Genesis Begins Again - Alicia D. Williams
Ghost Boys - Jewell Parker Rhodes
New Kid - Jerry Craft
Punching the Air - Ibi Zoboi and Yusef Salaam
Say Her Name - Zetta Elliott

ADULT READERS

I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness - Austin Channing Brown
Nickel Boys - Colson Whitehead
Such a Fun Age - Kiley Reid
The Vanishing Half - Brit Bennett
Transcendent Kingdom - Yaa Gyasi



INDIGENOUS

EARLY READERS

Bowwow Powwow - Brenda J. Child
Fry Bread - Kevin Noble Maillard
Johnny's Pheasant - Cheryl Minnema
We Are Water Protectors - Carole Lindstrom
We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga - Traci Sorrell

MIDDLE / YA READERS

An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States for Young People - Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, Jean Mendoza, and Debbie Reese
Hearts Unbroken - Cynthia Leitich Smith
If I Ever Get Out of Here - Eric Gansworth
Indian No More - Charlene Willing McManis
The Marrow Thieves - Cherie Dimaline

ADULT READERS

An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States - Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz
A Mind Spread Out on the Ground - Alicia Elliott
Murder on the Red River - Marcie Rendon
The Round House - Louise Erdrich
There, There - Tommy Orange

ASIAN AMERICAN / PACIFIC ISLANDER

EARLY READERS

A Different Pond - Bao Phi
Bilal Cooks Dal - Aisha Saeed
The Most Beautiful Thing - Kao Kalia Yang
Drawn Together - Minh Lê
The Name Jar - Yangsook Choi

MIDDLE / YA READERS

Butterfly Yellow - Thanhà Lai
Count Me In - Varsha Bajaj
Stargazing - Jen Wang
They Called Us Enemy - George Takei
Where the Mountain Meets the Moon - Grace Lin

ADULT READERS

America Is Not the Heart - Elaine Castillo
Little Fires Everywhere - Celeste Ng
Minor Feelings: An Asian American Reckoning - Cathy Park Hong
The Latehomecomer - Kao Kalia Yang
The Last Story of Mina Lee - Nancy Jooyoun Kim

LATINX

EARLY READERS

Alma and How She Got Her Name - Juana Martinez-Neal
Carmela Full of Wishes - Matt de la Peña
Dreamers - Yuyi Morales
Maybe Something Beautiful - F. Isabel Campoy
My Papi Has a Motorcycle - Isabel Quintero

MIDDLE / YA READERS

Clap When You Land - Elizabeth Acevedo
I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter - Erika L. Sánchez
Stella Díaz Dreams Big - Angela Dominguez
The Poet X - Elizabeth Acevedo
They Call Me Güero - David Bowles

ADULT READERS

Afterlife - Julia Alvarez
Dominicana - Angie Cruz
Lost Children Archive - Valeria Luiselli
Mexican Gothic - Silvia Moreno-Garcia
Sabrina & Corina: Stories - Kali Fajardo-Anstine
Tell Me How It Ends - Valeria Luiselli

LGBTQ+

EARLY READERS

Call Me Max - Kyle Lukoff
I Am Perfectly Designed - Karamo Brown with Jason "Rachel" Brown
Love Makes a Family - Sophie Beer
My Rainbow - Trinity and DeShanna Neal
When Aidan Became a Brother - Kyle Lukoff

MIDDLE / YA READERS

Felix Ever After - Kacen Callender
George - Alex Gino
Juliet Takes a Breath - Gabby Rivera
Pet - Akwaeke Emezi
The Black Flamingo - Dean Atta



ADULT READERS

Fairest - Meredith Talusan
How We Fight for Our Lives - Saeed Jones
Memorial - Bryan Washington
On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous - Ocean Vuong
We Are Everywhere - Matthew Riemer

MUSLIM

EARLY READERS

Lailah's Lunchbox - Reem Faruqi
Mommy's Khimar - Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow
Muslim Girls Rise - Saira Mir
The Proudest Blue: A Story of Hijab and Family - Ibtihaj Muhammad and S. K. Ali
Under My Hijab - Hena Khan

MIDDLE / YA READERS

Amina's Voice - Hena Kahn
Internment - Samira Ahmed
Once Upon an Eid - S.K. Ali and Aisha Saeed
Other Words for Home - Jasmine Warga
The Night Diary - Veera Hiranandani

ADULT READERS

A Place for Us - Fatima Farheen Mirza
A Woman Is No Man - Etaf Rum
Homeland Elegies - Ayad Akhtar
The Beauty of Your Face - Sahar Mustafah
We Are Not Here to Be Bystanders - Linda Sarsour



DISABILITY + NEURODIVERSITY

EARLY READERS

A Friend for Henry - Jenn Bailey
I Talk Like a River - Jordan Scott
Keep Your Ear on the Ball - Genevieve Petrillo and Lea Lyon
This Beach Is Loud! - Samantha Cotterill
What Happened to You? - James Catchpole

MIDDLE / YA READERS

El Deafo - Cece Bell
Get a Grip, Vivvy Cohen - Sarah Kapit
How We Roll - Natasha Friend
Show Me a Sign - Anne Clare LeZotte
Wonder - R.J. Palacio

ADULT READERS

Disability Visibility - Alice Wong
Far From the Tree - Andrew Solomon
The Kiss Quotient - Helen Hoang
The Secret Life of a Black Aspie: A Memoir - Anand Prahald
Sitting Pretty: The View from My Ordinary Resilient Disabled Body - Rebekah Taussig



JEWISH

EARLY READERS

The Adventures of Hershel of Ostropol - Eric A. Kimmel
The Book Rescuer - Sue Macy
Chicken Soup, Chicken Soup - Pamela Meyer
Dear Mr. Dickens - Nancy Churnin
A Hat for Mrs. Goldman: A Story about Knitting and Love - Michelle Edwards

MIDDLE / YA READERS

All Three Stooges - Erica S. Perl
The Assignment - Liza Wiemer
The Book Thief - Markus Zusak
A Ceiling Made of Eggshells - Gail Carson Levine
Hereville: How Mirka Got Her Sword - Barry Deutsch

ADULT READERS

A Backpack, a Bear, and Eight Crates of Vodka - Lev Golinkin
The Color of Love: A Story of a Mixed-Race Jewish Girl - Marra Gad
The Family: Three Journeys into the Heart of the 20th Century - David Laskin
The Golem and the Jinni - Helene Wecker
House on Endless Waters - Emuna Elon