



Finding Diverse Picture Books

Tools and Resources

REPRESENTATION

Who is the story about? Identifying books with positive representation allows kids to see themselves in the stories you are reading.

- **Own Voices** – *Who is telling the story?* Books written and/or illustrated by people that share a similar background to the characters that they are creating.
- **JEDI** – A useful tool in evaluating a picture book collection for positive representation.
 - Justice – Standing up for what is right.
 - Equity – Removing barriers to provide fair access to resources.
 - Diversity – Celebrating differences.
 - Inclusion – Including and involving a diverse group of people.
- **Belonging** – When a child feels all of who they are is known, accepted, protected and loved and is able to engage in a space as a full individual.
- **Picture Book Gardening**
 - Perspective
 - It’s an ongoing process that won’t happen overnight.
 - Weeding
 - Remove “invasive species” – books with negative representation.
 - Reduce “overgrowth” – an overabundance of white-centered literature.
 - Cultivating
 - Start by focusing on who is already coming to your programs, who might come in the future and any big programs or displays.

STRATEGIES

- Ask a librarian!
- Follow your favorite authors, illustrators and publishers on social media.
- Share books with colleagues on Goodreads.

WEBSITES

- Americanindiansinchildrensliterature.blogspot.com
- Coloursofus.com
- Corinneduyvis.net/ownvoices/
- Diversebookfinder.org
- Diversebooks.org
- Hijabilibraians.com
- Imyourneighborbooks.org
- Leeandlow.com
- Pragmaticmom.com
- Readbrightly.com
- Socialjusticebooks.org
- Thebrownbookshelf.com
- Theconsciouskid.org