

HOW TO TALK TO YOUR KIDS ABOUT RACE AND RACISM



FreedomSchool - Toronto





LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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"In solidarity we reflect. We honour this truth with respect

That on this land where we all stand is dish with one spoon, wampum belt land

We all stand in solidarity with the Haudenosaunee Confederacy

The Wendat First Nations, Inuit, and Cree. Great allies we pledge to be.

Indigenous people around the world you see. Indigenous people could be you or me.

Oromo, Taino, Samoan or Cree

We are here in solidarity!

ICEBREAKER

EMOJI CHECK-IN:

Choose an emoji

that represents

how you are feeling

right now and copy/

paste it into the

chat.



GROUND RULES FOR THE CONVERSATION

Speak up, hold back

Speak from your own experience

Speak to the issue not the person

Keep confidentiality

Hold space for the most marginalized

We will not disprove oppression

Any others?

WHAT IS RACE?

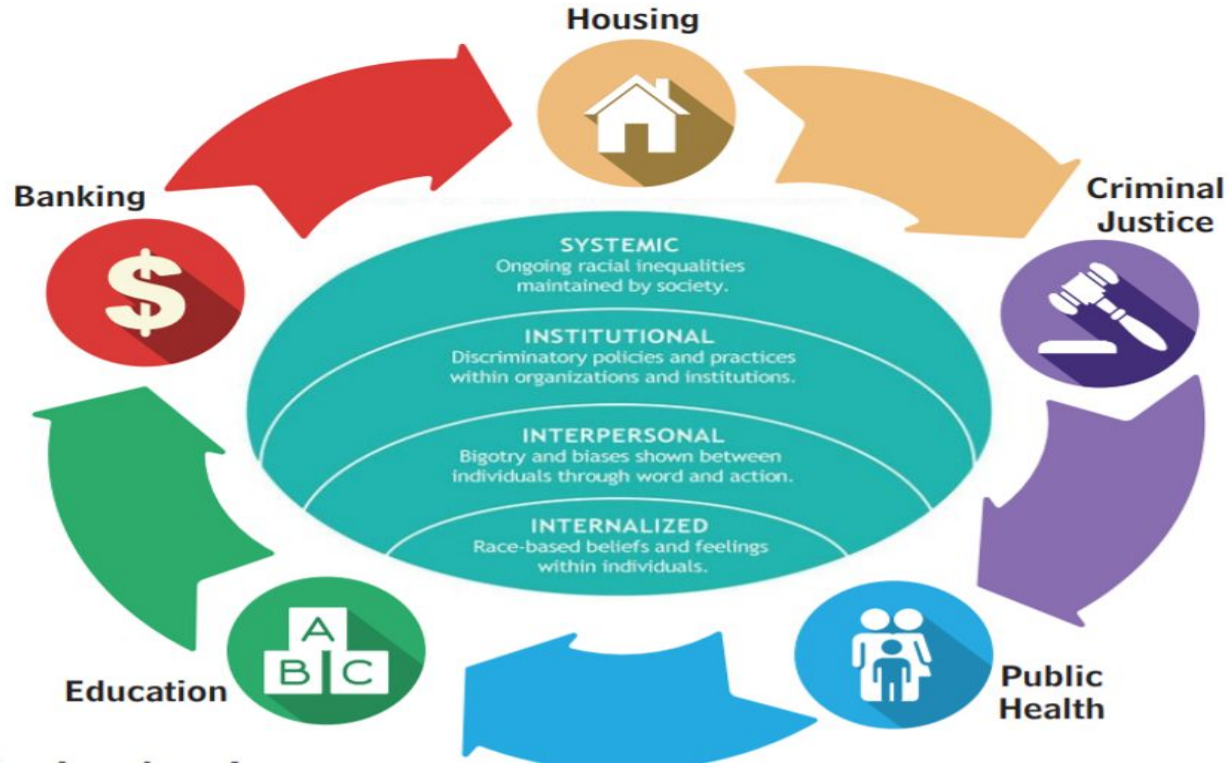


There is no such thing as race. None.
There is just a human race -
scientifically, anthropologically.
Racism is a construct, a social
construct... It has a social function,
racism.

— Toni Morrison —

AZ QUOTES

ANTI-BLACK RACISM



COLONIALISM



"Gold Diggers"



OPPRESSION

"When you're accustomed to privilege, equality feels like oppression"

AFRO
PUNK



**BEING OPPRESSED
MEANS THE
ABSENCE OF
CHOICES.**

QUOTEHD.COM

Bell Hooks

SYSTEMIC RACISM

“It’s actually a material reality, it’s not that you don’t like me because I am Black. You not liking me because I’m Black actually gets in my way of survival. Police not liking Black people means that Black people get killed by police.”

- Beverly Bain, a professor of women and gender studies in the department of historical studies at the University of Toronto, Mississauga

“Taking land away from Indigenous people across all of the Americas and then bringing in free labour from Africa and enslaving Black people created wealth and opportunities for white people.”

- Tiffany Ford, a former TDSB trustee, entrepreneur and activist

SLAVERY



"Slavery is Canada's best-kept secret"

Afua Cooper

Lindsay Campbell
January Review of Canada's Atg. 2011

HISTORY AND STATS ON ANTI BLACK RACISM IN CANADA: DEBUNKING THE MYTH OF THE GREAT FREE NORTH



THE MYTH OF THE FREE NORTH- MARIE JOSEPH ANGELO



THE MYTH OF THE FREE NORTH- CHLOE COOLEY



Artwork by Naomi
Moyer

THE MYTH OF THE FREE NORTH - HENRY DUNDAS



THE MYTH OF THE FREE NORTH - COLONIZATION



THE MYTH OF THE FREE NORTH - POLICE BRUTALITY



THE MYTH OF THE FREE NORTH - INTERSECTIONALITY



THE MYTH OF THE FREE NORTH - INCARCERATION



SOCA AND STRETCH

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pD4lqYEwmiI&fbclid=IwAR3LNLHn1tPc_n0mhqv1Ha1H0EUR8LqJkzp0XzAwOS465abmK1uZxIj-UZs



RACE AND RACISM IN CANADA JEOPARDY

<https://www.playfactile.com/freedomschooltoronto>



WORKSHOPPING SESSION 1

We will use a get to know you group bingo card. This bingo card will get us started on conversations about our comfort levels with talking to kids about racism, to affirm practices where we are honest with kids about history and about power dynamics and to normalize talking about white privilege for white parents. The bingo card will be squares with certain experiences on them and our group will have to talk together to find out who has done the experience and then the whole group will write the participants name down who has done the experience. Then we will listen to that participant talk about that experiences. Ex - one square on the bingo card says: "I've talked to my child about enslavement in Canada." So if "Janine" has done this we will write "janine" on that square. Then Janine will share her experience teaching her child about enslavement in Canada.

BINGO CARD

<p>I talk to my kid about enslavement in Canada</p>	<p>I talk to my kids about white privilege</p>	<p>My kids watch TV shows or read books that uplift Blackness</p>
<p>I have talked to my kids about Indigenous land protectors</p>	<p>I attend Black Lives Matter protests with my kids</p>	<p>I have talked to my child's teacher about including Black LGBTQ content in class</p>
<p>My kids have told me what racism looks like in their school</p>	<p>My kids tell me what allyship means to them</p>	<p>My kids tell me what they love about being Black and/or Indigenous</p>

CLOSING CIRCLE

Normally for our programs with children we use closing circles to get a sense of how children are feeling and how they are processing information. Because there are so many people on the call today we will pose these self reflections for you to answer in a google form so that we can read your feedback. We look forward to seeing you all for our next session!!

<https://forms.gle/xW8KtLyTyTv7KwNy6>

We will stick around for Questions and Answers although we are sure it is past bedtime for all of your beautiful children.

STAY CONNECTED

Please stay connected with FreedomSchool- Toronto and check out our website: www.freedomchooltoronto.ca. Please get your kids involved in our programs, have us in to speak at your school, we always need volunteers etc!!

freedomchooltoronto@gmail.com

HOW TO TALK TO YOUR KIDS ABOUT RACE AND RACISM SESSION 2

FreedomSchool - Toronto

GROUND RULES FOR THE CONVERSATION

Speak up, hold back

Speak from your own experience

Speak to the issue not the person

Keep confidentiality

Hold space for the most marginalized

We will not disprove oppression

Any others?

A MAP OF WHERE WE'VE BEEN AND WHERE WE'RE GOING

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GIVEN IN AFFINITY GROUPS

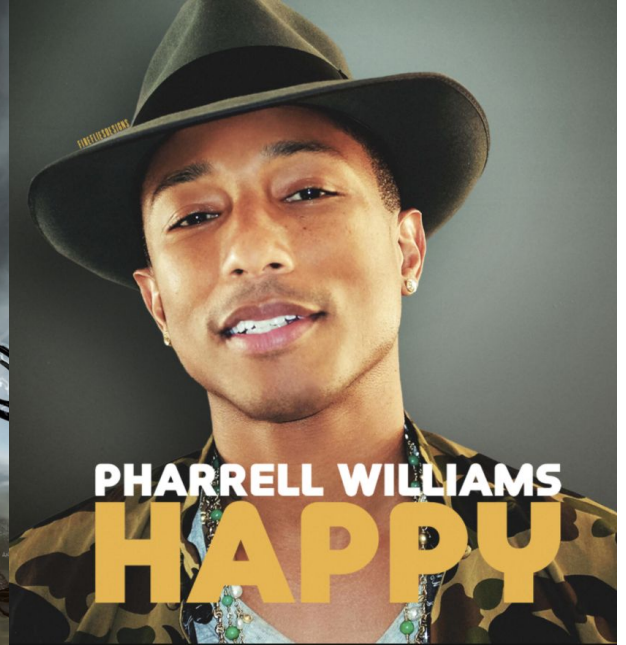
WHAT'S AGE APPROPRIATE

- *It's essential
- *It's age appropriate
- *We need to be mindful
About igniting trauma



FRAMING THE CONVERSATION IN AN EMPOWERING WAY

* Focus on Black joy/pride in culture. Reinforce your worth by writing daily affirmations and/or gratitude journals.



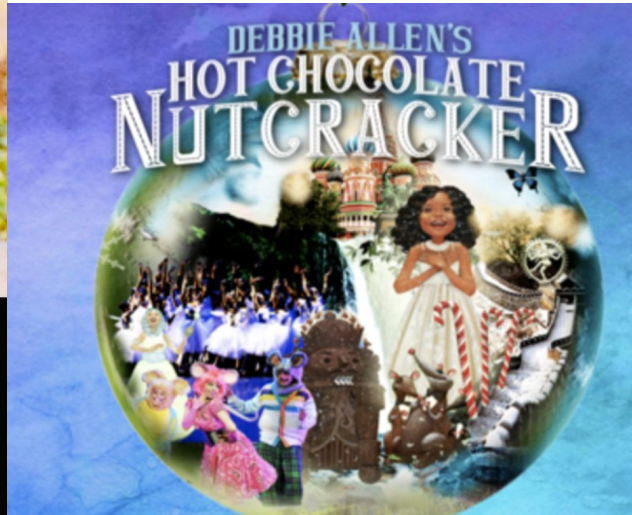
FRAMING THE CONVERSATION IN AN EMPOWERING WAY

* Focus on Black brilliance while being mindful of respectability politics. Have your kids create a positive news story daily using <https://www.facebook.com/powerfulblackstories> or other independent media.



Caleb Anderson at nine months knew sign language. He was reading at 1-years-old. At 2-years-old he could do fractions. He then passed the first grade at 3-years-old. In 2020, Caleb is currently a sophomore at Georgia Tech pursuing his bachelor's degree in Aerospace engineering at 12-year-old.

@FIRSTKNOWTHYSELF



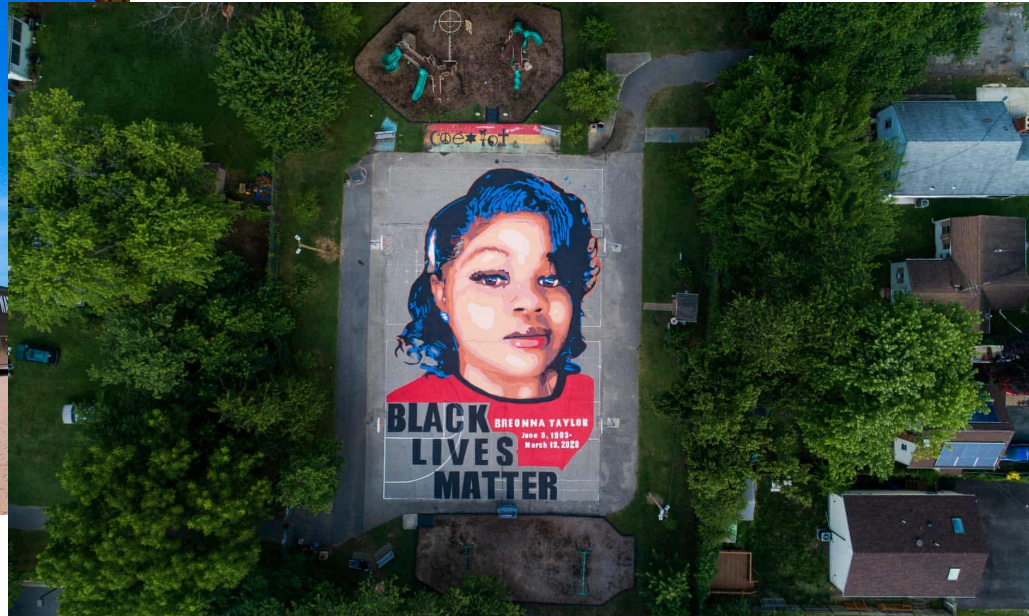
FRAMING THE CONVERSATION IN AN EMPOWERING WAY

* Focus on shared culture as a point from which we can move forward with mutual respect and develop allyship

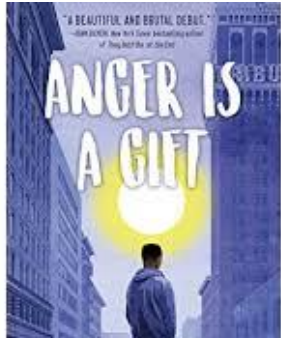
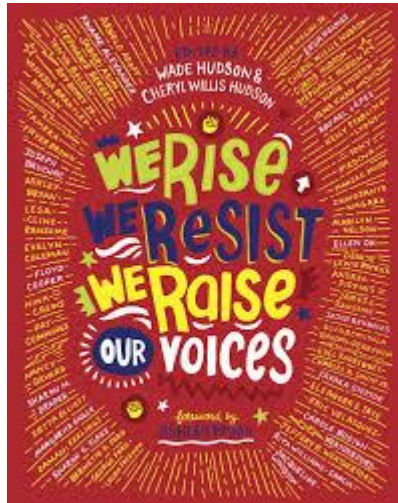
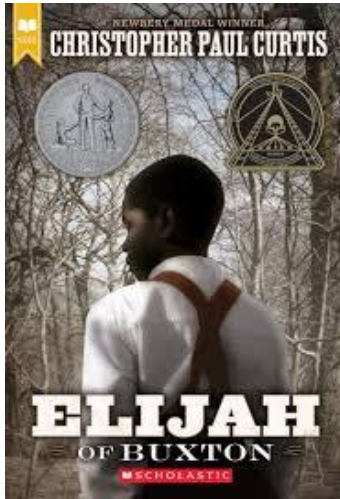
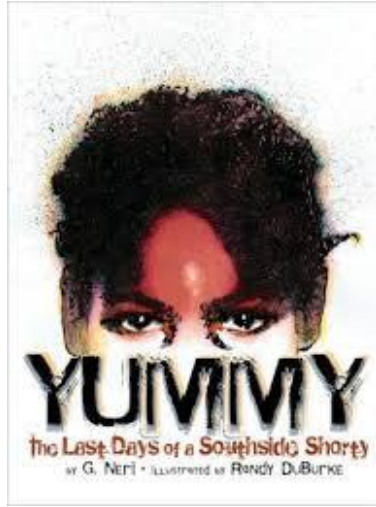
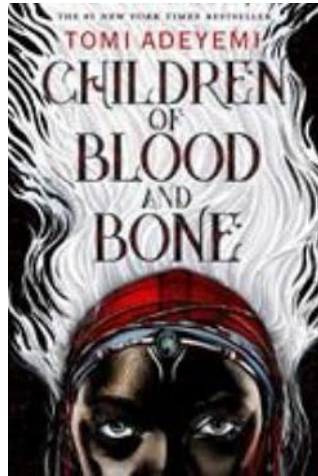
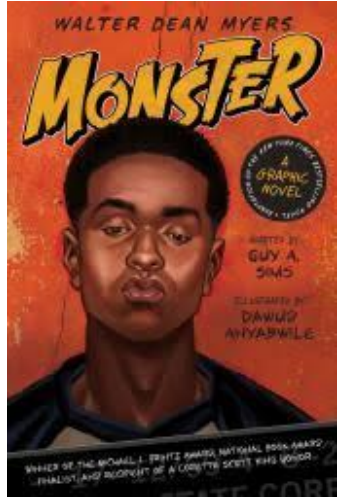


FRAMING THE CONVERSATION IN AN EMPOWERING WAY

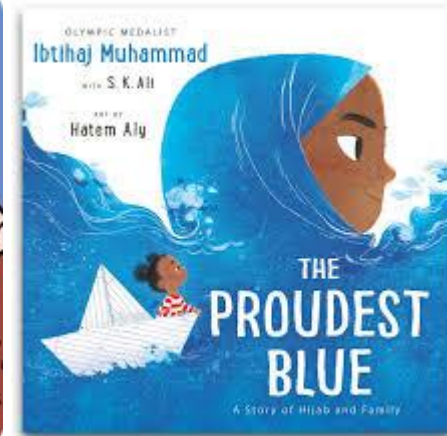
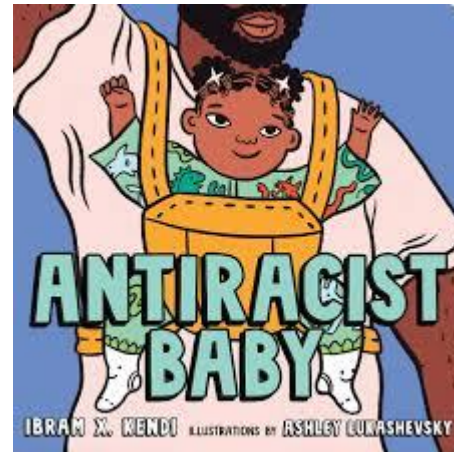
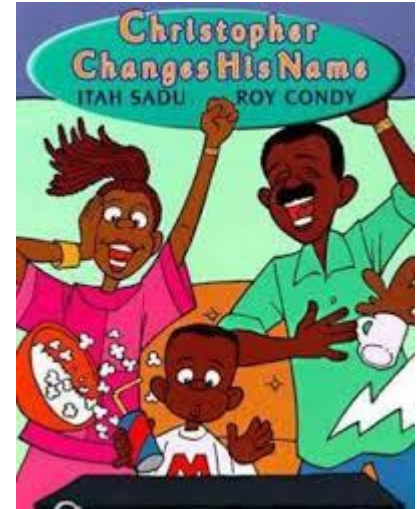
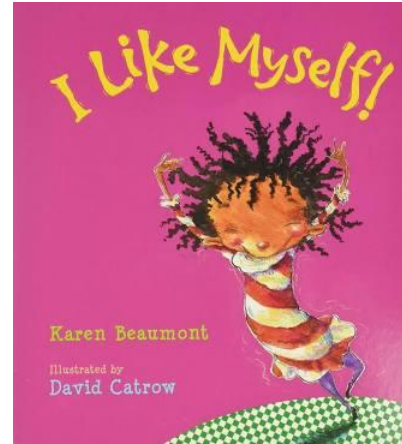
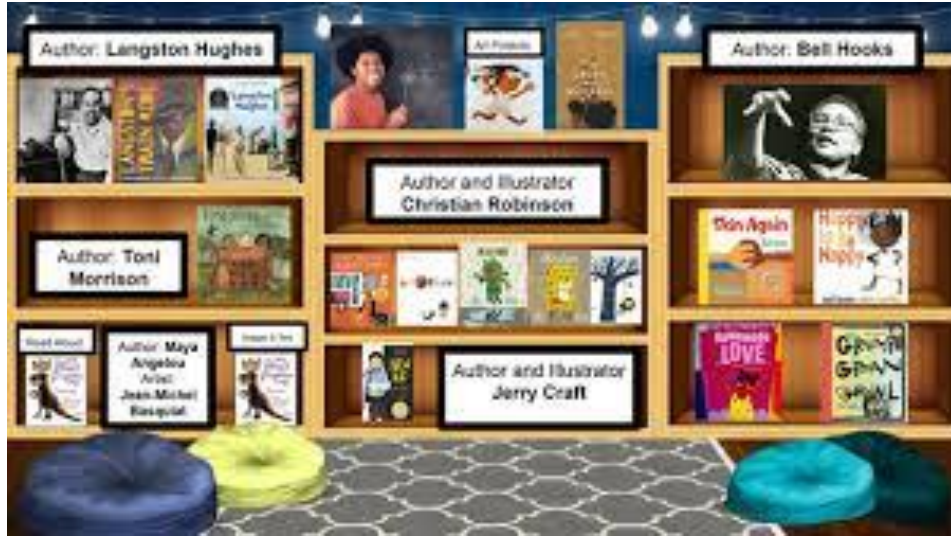
* Do not shy away from talking about difference, inequity and oppression. Focus on resistance, change and activism



RESOURCES



RESOURCES



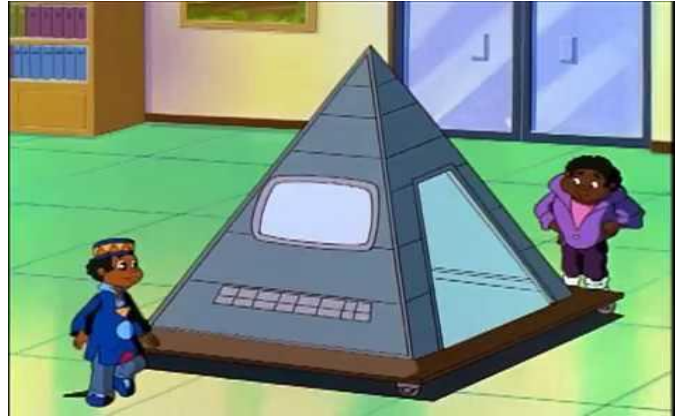
RESOURCES



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kNw8V_Fkw28



<https://youtu.be/lsK8Zwy4dEw>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e6n2JK0TDgY&list=PLb2D2XjtsActx251qVHemdT0iEEhHVcil>



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xpYHmBvwYGw&feature=emb_logo

RESOURCES



<https://www.undergroundrailroadmuseum.org/>
John Freeman Walls Historical Site and
Underground Railroad Museum and Village



<https://ckbhs.org/>
Chatham-Kent Black
Historical Society



Little Jamaica @Eglinton West

<https://www.bandgallery.com>

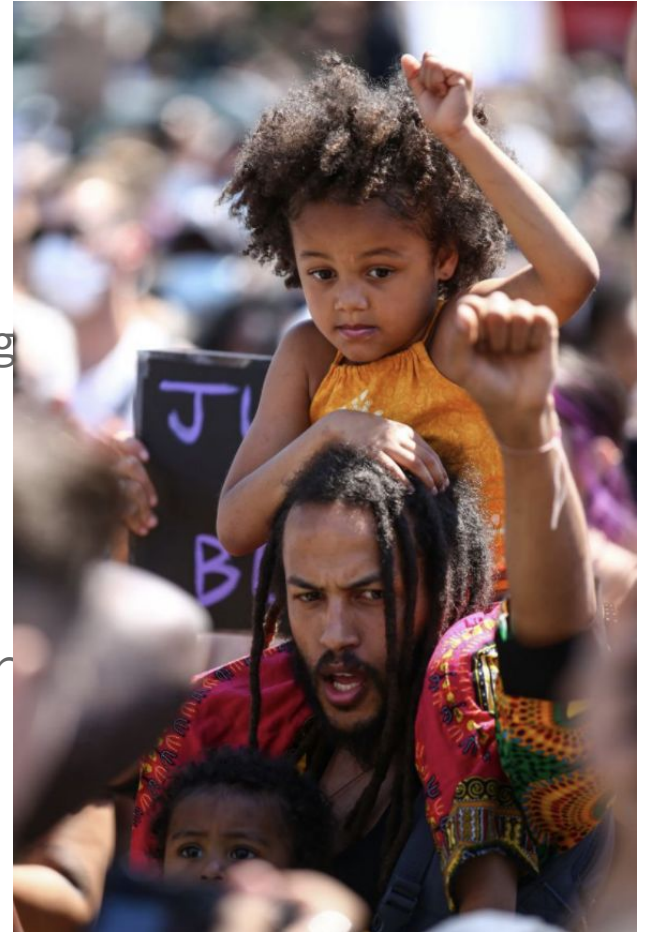


FREEDOM SCHOOL RESOURCES

<https://freedomshooltoronto.ca/educational-resources-for-kids>

ALLIED ACTIONS

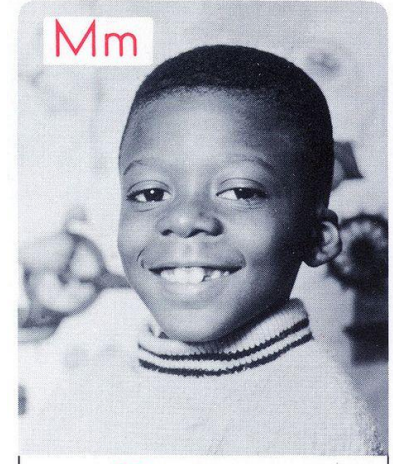
Allyship is active. It means constantly and intentionally intervening in oppressive structures. What allied Actions do you or can you do with your children? What allied actions do you or can you encourage them to do on their own?



FUN ACTIVITY WHILE WE CREATE BREAKOUT ROOMS

ALPHABET CHALLENGE:

For each letter of the alphabet, list in the chat a movie or book that you have seen or read about Black people, and people of colour.



WORKSHOPPING

Design a home based lesson for your kids that is engaging, fun, accountable, and age appropriate to talk about:

Option 1 - Black excellence in Canada

Option 2 - Resistance to enslavement in Canada

Option 3 - BLM Movement in Toronto

Option 4 - A cultural connection between Black and POC

Option 5 - Intersectionality and resistance

WHAT TO INCORPORATE IN YOUR ACTIVITY

How will you incorporate art?

What books will you use?

What videos might you watch?

What place might you visit?

What allied actions will you follow up with?

HOW TO TALK TO YOUR KIDS ABOUT RACE AND RACISM SESSION 3

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RECAP!

TERMINOLOGY MATCHING GAME

\$15.5 billion	This institution established the idea that Black people are not part of the law nor deserving of protection
Settler colonialism	prolonged cruel or unjust treatment or control
2017	Year slavery was abolished in Canada
Systemic racism	Aggressive theft of lands from Indigenous peoples.
Slavery	Racism embedded as normal practice within societal systems
1833	The last residential school to close in Canada was the Gordon Residential School in Saskatchewan
Anti-Black Racism	Institutionalized racism, discrimination, severe exercise of authority/power that creates systems that regularly discriminates against Black and Indigenous, people of colour
Oppression	The year SRO (school resource officers) were removed from TDSB schools after over 10 years of protests from the community
1996	Cost of police services in Canada per year

RACISM IN EDUCATION

The foundations of anti-Blackness in education in Canada



RACISM IN EDUCATION

Segregation in Canada's Education System



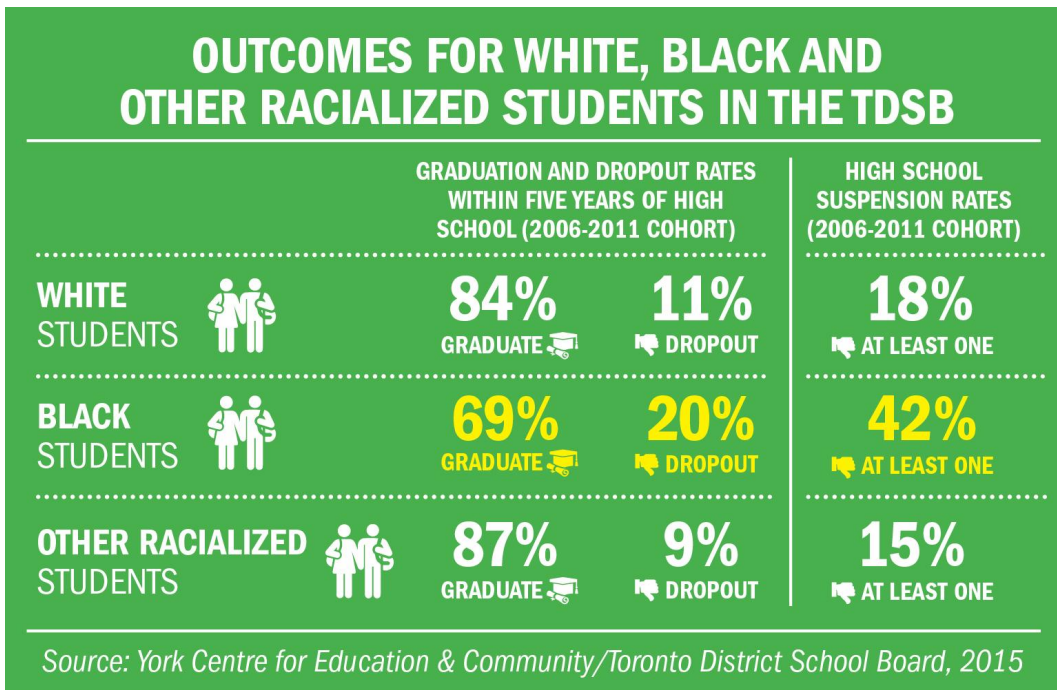
RACISM IN EDUCATION

Streaming



RACISM IN EDUCATION

Achievement, Suspensions and Expulsions



RESISTANCE TO RACISM IN EDUCATION



RESISTANCE TO RACISM IN EDUCATION



RESISTANCE TO RACISM IN EDUCATION



RESISTANCE TO RACISM IN EDUCATION



RESISTANCE TO RACISM IN EDUCATION



WHAT ISSUES DISCUSSED DO YOU CONNECT TO IN THINKING ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL



ADDRESSING ANTI-BLACKNESS IN SCHOOL AS A PARENT



OVERT RACISM/BULLYING

Scenario: You realize your child continually has a problem with a Black peer, but the teacher and admin staff assures you the problem lies with the Black student. What do you do?

MICROAGGRESSIONS

Scenario: Your child complains that they are being mistaken for another student of similar heritage, by their teacher.

This continues for over 3 months, what do you do?

CURRICULUM

Scenario: You realize your child is learning nothing about Blackness in class, what do you do?

DISCIPLINE

Scenario: You go to drop off lunch for your child each day for a week and you realize that a Black student in the class is inside for detention for the 3rd time that week. What do you do?

RESOURCES

Scenario: You notice that all of the books available in the online library your child is using for virtual learning feature white children. What do you do?

What questions do you have about the history of anti-Blackness in Canada?

What questions do you have about talking to your child about racism?

What questions do you have about racism in the Ontario Education system?

What questions do you have about helping your child address racism at school?

Q&A



STAY CONNECTED

Please stay connected with FreedomSchool- Toronto and check out our website: www.freedom.schooltoronto.ca. Please get your kids involved in our virtual programs, have us in to speak at your school, we always need volunteers etc!!

freedom.schooltoronto@gmail.com