ACTIVIST BOOKLIST

Books about activism and Changemakers when they were kids! Read with your kids and use our questions to get conversations started about justice and equality!

1. Click, Clack, Moo: Cows that Type
   - Written By: Doreen Cronin
   - Illustrated by: Betsy Lewin
   - What did the animals think was unfair about their treatment? How did they get the farmer to change his treatment of them? How important do you think words were in this story and the ability to read? What does the word "justice" mean? What are some ways in which we can make the world more fair, and help everyone get what they need to live a safe, healthy life? How can working together help one pursue justice?
   - Children ages 3-7

2. Malala’s Magic Pencil
   - Written by: Malala Yousafzai
   - Illustrated by: Kerascoët
   - Do you believe in magic? What comes out of Malala’s magic pencil? What power does a pencil have? If you found out you could not go to school because of your gender, how would you feel? Do you think that boys and girls are treated equally? If you could write a letter to Malala, what would you say to her? How can you help create change within your own community? What would you change and why? How will this change improve your community? The world?
   - Children ages 4-8
3. A is for Activist

Written by: Innosanto Nagara

A is for Activist is a fun and engaging ABC board book that with its alliteration, rhyming and vibrant illustrations make the book exciting for children while the issues it brings up resonates with their parents’ issues of community, equality and justice. This engaging little book carries big messages to inspire hope for the future, and calls children to action while teaching them a love of books.

*Children ages 3-7*

4. Emmanuel’s Dream: The True Story of Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah

Written by: Laurie Ann Thompson

Illustrated by: Sean Qualls

What is ability? What is disability? What do people think of Emmanuel at the beginning of the story? How does that make him feel? How does Emmanuel see himself? Does he seem disabled to you? What actions does Emmanuel take to be independent? What choices does Emmanuel take to accept help when needed? In what ways did Emmanuel’s actions begin to change the way people in Ghana thought about physical disability? How did people in his country begin to see him differently at the end of the story? How does Emmanuel positively influence other characters in the story?

*Children ages 4-8*
5. She Was the First! The Trailblazing Life of Shirley Chisholm

- Written by: Katheryn Russell-Brown
- Illustrated by: Eric Velasquez
- How did Shirley Chisholm’s childhood influence her career? Why did Shirley become interested in current events at a young age? How did Shirley’s education and desire for learning inspire her to go into politics? Why did Shirley want to speak up for others and make a difference? What did Shirley do to help people during her time as a politician? Why is Shirley Chisholm considered a trailblazer and how is her legacy important today?

*Children ages 6-11*

6. Greta and the Giants: Inspired by Greta Thunberg’s Stand to Save the World

- Written by: Zoe Tucker
- Illustrated by: Zoe Persico
- How were the Giants ruining the forest? Why did Greta think she needed to stop the Giants? How did she eventually make the Giants listen? How did the Giants’ changes affect the forest? Who do you think the Giants represent in real life? What do you think people are doing in real life that is bad for the environment? What do you think of when you hear the term ‘climate change’? Do you think everyone agrees with Greta or her movement? Do you think being an activist is easy? What challenges do you think Greta and other activists might face in their work? What does it mean to be an activist? Discuss Greta’s idea that ‘no one is too small to make a difference.’ Do you agree or disagree with this? Why?

*Children ages 4-7*