Additional Resources

Early Risers: Racism in the Early Childhood Classroom
Debra S. Fish Library (A St. Paul Public Library)

Books for Children:

- **Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut** by Derrick D. Barnes
  - Recommended PreK – Gr. 4
  - From *School Library Journal*: Is a haircut just the snip of the scissors and the buzz of the razor? No, Barnes insists that a visit to the barbershop is a rite of passage that renews the recipient again and again. In pulsing, pounding prose, he describes the experience of getting a "fresh cut" from the eyes of a young African American boy. It allows him to view the world differently and gives him the confidence to know the world is looking at him in a new light. Possibilities open up that seemed closed before. The world is new, and so is he. Caldecott Honor, Coretta Scott King Awards (Author & Illustrator), Newbery Honor

- **I Am Not a Number** by Jenny Kay Dupuis & Kathy Kacer
  - Recommended Gr. 1 – Gr. 6
  - From the publisher: When eight-year-old Irene is removed from her Anishinaabe family to live in a residential school she is confused, frightened, and terribly homesick. She tries to remember who she is and where she came from, despite the efforts of the nuns who are in charge at the school and who tell her that she is not to use her own name but instead use the number they have assigned to her. When she goes home for summer holidays, Irene's parents decide never to send her and her brothers away again. But where will they hide? And what will happen when her parents disobey the law? Based on the life of co-author Jenny Kay Dupuis' grandmother.

- **Separate Is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez & Her Family's Fight for Desegregation** by Duncan Tonatiuh
  - Recommended K – Gr. 3
  - From the publisher: When her family moved to the town of Westminster, California, young Sylvia Mendez was excited about enrolling in her neighborhood school. But she and her brothers were turned away and told they had to attend the Mexican school instead. Sylvia could not understand why—she was an American citizen who spoke perfect English. Why were the children of Mexican families forced to attend a separate school? Unable to get a satisfactory answer from the school board, the Mendez family decided to take matters into its own hands and organize a lawsuit.

  In the end, the Mendez family's efforts helped bring an end to segregated schooling in California in 1947, seven years before the landmark Supreme Court ruling in Brown v. Board of Education ended segregation in schools across America. A Pura Belpré Illustrator Honor Book and Robert F. Sibert Honor Book

- **The Undefeated** by Kwame Alexander
  - Recommended K – Gr. 7
From the publisher: a love letter to black life in the United States. It highlights the unspeakable trauma of slavery, the faith and fire of the civil rights movement, and the grit, passion, and perseverance of some of the world's greatest heroes. The text is also peppered with references to the words of Martin Luther King, Jr., Langston Hughes, Gwendolyn Brooks, and others, offering deeper insights into the accomplishments of the past, while bringing stark attention to the endurance and spirit of those surviving and thriving in the present. Robust back matter at the end provides valuable historical context and additional detail for those wishing to learn more.

- **Under My Hijab** by Hena Khan
  - Recommended PreK – Gr. 4
  - From the publisher: Grandma wears it clasped under her chin. Aunty pins hers up with a beautiful brooch. Jenna puts it under a sun hat when she hikes. Zara styles hers to match her outfit. As a young girl observes six very different women in her life who each wear the hijab in a unique way, she also dreams of the rich possibilities of her own future, and how she will express her own personality through her hijab. Written in sprightly rhyme and illustrated by a talented newcomer, Under My Hijab honors the diverse lives of contemporary Muslim women and girls, their love for each other, and their pride in their culture and faith.

Books for Educators:

- **Anti-bias Curriculum for the Preschool Classroom** by YWCA Minneapolis
  - The YWCA Minneapolis Early Childhood Education's anti-biased and play-based curriculum uses practical and real-life experiences to support teacher learning and practice. With thrilling success in 2016, 94% of infants through preschoolers enrolled in this program were on track with age-appropriate development. This curriculum is flexible enough to accommodate state or local standards while remaining open to children's ideas, interests, and questions.

- **Courageous Leadership in Early Childhood Education: Taking a Stand for Social Justice** edited by Susi Long, Mariana Souto-Manning, & Vivian Maria Vasquez
  - Through the voices of families, teachers, and the administrators themselves, each chapter shares ways leaders use the power entrusted in them to question and disrupt discriminatory and marginalizing practices that deny opportunities for some students while privileging others. The book includes insights, strategies, and resources that administrators can use to build confidence, knowledge, and skills as they invest in more equitable and just preschools and schools.

- **Culturally Responsive Teaching: Theory, Research, & Practice**
  - Combining insights from multicultural education theory with real-life classroom stories, this book demonstrates that all students will perform better on multiple measures of achievement when teaching is filtered through students' own cultural experiences. This updated edition includes consideration of the needs and benefits of culturally responsive teaching within early childhood education.

- **Loose Parts 3: Inspiring Culturally Sustainable Environments** by Lisa Daly
  - Inspiration and guidance on creating culturally sensitive and culturally sustainable early childhood environments.
• *We Want to Do More Than Survive: Abolitionist Teaching and the Pursuit of Educational Freedom* by Bettina L. Love
  - A path to educational justice for all students - one that encourages teachers, parents, and their communities to adopt the rebellious spirit and bold and creative methods of abolitionists

Additional Resources:

• *5 Anti-Racism Videos for School Staff* - Short, informative videos that cover dealing with racism from colleagues, the importance of anti-racist education for educators, teacher racial bias and its direct impact on child development

• *Mr. B & Dr. E* - Brandon Hersey is a Black educator in Seattle who uses his YouTube channel to discuss, among other topics, confronting racism in the classroom

• *Our Children, Our Workforce: Why We Must Talk about Race and Racism in Early Childhood Education* – article for *Exchange Press* by Kelly Matthews & Ijumaa Jordan

• *Viewpoint. Creating Anti-Racist Early Childhood Spaces* - article for NAEYC’s *Young Children* by Rosemarie Allen, Dorothy L. Shapland, Jen Neitzel, & Iheoma U. Iruka
  - Related: Creating Anti-Racist Early Childhood Spaces webinar by authors

• *We Need Diverse Books* - A place to start. A 501(c)(3) non-profit and a grassroots organization of children’s book lovers that advocates essential changes in the publishing industry to produce and promote literature that reflects and honors the lives of all young people. Find book reviews and recommendations vetted by #ownvoices experts as well as interviews and timely articles.

Contact Jennie with any questions: librarian@thinksmall.org or (651) 641-3544
Available through MNLINK (www.mnlink.org).
All you need is a library card. Resources can be delivered and returned to any Minnesota public library.