



## Anti-racism resources for children

*“It is the obligation of every person born in a safer room to open the door when someone in danger knocks.”*

**Dina Nayeri**

The theme for this half term is **Seeking Sanctuary**. New additions to the list are in **red**. All of these recommendations have been chosen to give an insight into the experiences of displaced people and to counter some of the stereotypes and misconceptions about refugees and asylum seekers.

Avenue Junior School is proud to be a School of Sanctuary. You can find out more about this commitment on the school website [here](#).

### BOOKS

#### Non-fiction

**Malala: My Story of Standing Up for Girls' Rights; Illustrated Edition for Younger Readers by Malala Yousafzai & Patricia McCormick**

This illustrated adaptation of Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai's bestselling memoir, *I Am Malala*, introduces readers of 7+ to the remarkable story of a teenage girl who risked her life for the right to go to school.

**Who are Refugees and Migrants? What Makes People Leave their Homes? And Other Big Questions by Michael Rosen & Annemarie Young**

This book explores the history of refugees and migration around the world and the effects on people of never-ending war and conflict. It takes an international perspective, and offers a range of views from people who have personal experience of migration. For KS2+

**Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History by Vashti Harrison**

An illustrated history book of amazing Black women in history and their achievements. For KS2+

**What is Race? Who are Racists? Why Does Skin Colour Matter? And Other Big Questions by Nikesh Shukula & Claire Heuchan**

An important and timely book on race and racism, encouraging children to think for themselves about the issues involved. This book explores the history of race and society, giving context to how racist attitudes come into being. It looks at belonging and identity, the damaging effects of stereotyping and the benefits of positive representation. The authors talk sensitively about how to identify and challenge racism, and how to protect against and stop racist behaviour. For KS2+

**This book is anti-racist by Tiffany Jewell**

Organised into twenty sections, each confronting a different theme related to race and prejudice, This Book is Anti-Racist is a tool to help self-educate and foster activism. Covering history, theory and practical measures, is for KS2+

**Black & British: a short essential history by David Olusoga**

A short, essential introduction to Black British history for young readers by award-winning historian and broadcaster David Olusoga. This children's version of the bestseller Black and British: A Forgotten History is Illustrated with maps, photos and portraits. Suitable for upper KS2

**Fiction**

**KEY STAGE 1**

**The Journey by Francesca Sanna**

A beautifully illustrated story of adventure, fear, love and the search for home that is a joy to read but also a poignant and significant book.

**The Colour of Home – Mary Hoffman**

This beautiful picture book is the story of Hassan's first day at an English school, after his family flee the war in Somalia. It describes his sadness, and how the school helps him to feel welcome and settled.

**Rocket says Look up! By Nathan Bryon**

This joyous, life-affirming picture book introduces the lovable Rocket, a space-obsessed girl who wants everybody to be as excited as her about an impending meteor shower. Bursting with eye-popping, vivid illustrations, *Look Up!* is a book that all budding young astronauts will love.

**Amazing Grace by Mary Hoffman**

Grace loves to act out stories. Sometimes she plays the leading part, sometimes she is 'a cast of thousands.' When her school decides to perform Peter Pan, Grace is longing to play Peter, but her classmates say that Peter was a boy, and besides, he wasn't black... But Grace's Ma and Nana tell her she can be anything she wants if she puts her mind to it...

**The Spots & the Dots by Helen Baugh**

The Spots live on one side of the hill. The Dots live on the other. Both are fearful and suspicious of the other, but are they really all that different? Find the similarities in others, discover that fear is often based on ignorance, and celebrate difference in this stunning picture book.

**Azzi in Between by Sarah Garland**

This is a moving tale of a refugee family told in graphic novel style. Beautifully illustrated, it conveys perfectly Azzi's feelings of loss and displacement in an absorbing, and ultimately uplifting, adventure story.

**The Day the War Came by Nicola Davies**

A powerful and necessary picture book - the journey of a child forced to become a refugee when war destroys everything she has ever known.

**Anisha Accidental Detective by Serena Patel**

Desperate to save the big Indian wedding of the year, Anisha gets dragged into a madcap kidnap plot involving lobsters, grannies and mysterious chauffeurs. The first of a hilarious new series by Serena Patel, *Anisha, Accidental Detective* is a feel good joy.

**Sofia Valdez, Future Prez by Andrea Beaty**

This picture book is a rhyming tale to inspire and energise enquiring young minds. Sofia Valdez is transformed from conscientious schoolgirl to determined social activist in a vibrantly illustrated story of empowerment and community.

**Planet Omar by Zanib Mian**

A graphic chapter book in the style of the Tom Gates or Diary of a Wimpy Kid series, Planet Omar takes in all sorts of issues, from dealing with school bullies and prejudice, especially against Omar's Muslim family, to forming new friendships and adjusting to change. Humorous, with a light touch.

**The Lost Homework by Richard O'Neill**

Sonny lives on a Traveller community site with his family and he's super excited about a family wedding. This smart, charming book is written by an author of Traveller heritage and has a lovely message about informal learning opportunities being all around.

**The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Q. Raúf**

This modern classic is the story of how one nine-year-old child and three classmates are full of empathy for Ahmet, a boy that comes to their school as a refugee from Syria.

**The Arrival by Shaun Tan**

This silent graphic novel is a masterpiece: the story of every migrant, every refugee, every displaced person, and a tribute to all those who have made the journey.

**High Rise Mystery by Sharna Jackson**

The murder of their art school teacher sets young sleuths Nik and Norva on a thrilling adventure to bring his killer to justice. Whilst the brooding presence of the high rise block, the Tri, ensures the novel feels topical and real, *High Rise Mystery* is, at its heart, a classic children's whodunit.

**Mohinder's War by Bali Rai**

A thrilling World War II adventure set in occupied France, featuring an Indian RAF pilot. Great for fans of Michael Morpurgo and John Boyne, and those who want diverse historical fiction.

**The Undefeated by Kwame Alexander**

An illustrated poem filled with stunning illustrations. The Undefeated remembers unforgettable, unafraid and unbowed, famous and overlooked figures from Black history. You can also watch the author perform the poem [here](#).

**Journey to Jo'burg by Beverley Naidoo**

This is the story of love, commitment and the flowering of the human spirit against the background of South Africa's apartheid. Frightened that their baby sister Dineo will die, thirteen-year-old Naledi and her younger brother Tiro run away from their grandmother to Johannesburg to find their mother, who works there as a maid

**Refugee Boy by Benjamin Zephaniah**

This is a poignant story of a young refugee whose father brings him to London to escape the dangers of his homeland. Left alone in a strange country, Alem must forge his own path.

**When Stars are Scattered by Victoria Jamieson, Omar Mohamed**

This incredible graphic novel is a heart-wrenching true story about life in a Kenyan refugee camp that will restore your faith in real-life happy endings.

**The Black Flamingo by Dean Atta**

Big hearted and dizzyingly flamboyant, Atta's verse novel about a black gay teen reclaiming his identity as a drag artist is an outspoken triumph from the opening couplet to the last.

**Noughts & Crosses by Malorie Blackman**

Takes social norms and flips them on their head and confronts the legacy of slavery in an engaging and comprehensible manner for teenagers. First in an outstanding series of books. Adults should read this too!

**Lies We Tell Ourselves by Robin Talley**

A beautiful yet painful reminder of America's history of segregation, desegregation, and integration. The book takes us through the minds and lives of two young women while they're completing their final year of high school.

## MULTIMEDIA

**VIDEO BBC Seeking Refuge animations**

Five animated stories giving a unique insight into the lives of young people who have sought refuge in the UK, told by the children themselves. Suitable for upper Key Stage 2. We advise that parents/carers view this before sharing with your children. [Watch here.](#)

**WEBSITE Refugee Republic**

An interactive documentary that allows you to explore everyday life in Camp Domiz. Scroll through hand-drawn maps, drawings, photographs, and short video impressions and discover a world not so different from our own. [Visit it here.](#)

**YOUTUBE CHANNEL Tata Storytime** is a new children's show where fantastic actors read beautiful picture books. With Authors from African, Caribbean & African American heritage these stories will engage your kids. Aimed at Pre-school to 8 year olds. [Watch it here.](#)

**VIDEO Horrible Histories: Black History Month Special**

In celebration of Black History Month, Oti Mabuse brings you a selection of Horrible Histories sketches and songs featuring Rosa Parks, Civil War spy Mary Bowser, pioneering boxer Bill Richmond, plus Mary Seacole and Martin Luther King Jr. [Watch it here.](#)

**SHORT FILM Hair Love** is an Oscar winning animated short film. It explores a little girls' relationship with her father and her hair. The film encourages self-affirmation and individuality and provides a positive representation of black families and black hair. Watch: by Sony Animated Pictures. [Watch it here.](#)

**VIDEO Not-racist v anti-racist: what's the difference?**

John Amaechi is a psychologist, a New York Times best-selling author and a former NBA basketball player explains what it means to be anti-racist. [Watch it here.](#)

**PODCAST Home-school history: Mansa Musa**

Join Greg Jenner of Horrible Histories in medieval West Africa to meet the ruler of the Mali Empire and the richest man to ever live, Mansa Musa. [Listen here.](#)

**VIDEO CBBC Newsround on Black Lives Matter**

The children's TV programme Newsround ran an episode exploring racism, what happened to George Floyd and how the Black Lives Matters movement responded. Watch: George Floyd: Racism in the US by CBBC. [Find it here.](#) More from Newsround [here.](#)

*Avenue Junior School is proud to be a School of Sanctuary. We strive to be a welcoming and inclusive school where all members of the community share our values; respect, resilience and aspiration. Our commitment to anti-racism is a key part of this vision.*

*In the consultation on racism that we conducted in the summer term of 2020, many parents and carers expressed an interest in the school sharing and signposting information and resources in order to support antiracist education in our community.*

*To that end, this document will host recommendations from our staff for books, websites, TV, film and other resources that you and your family may find of interest. Each half term we will add new recommendations.*

*If you have a suggestion for a resource to be added to these lists, we'd love to hear it! Let us know by completing [this form.](#)*



**Norfolk  
Schools of Sanctuary**