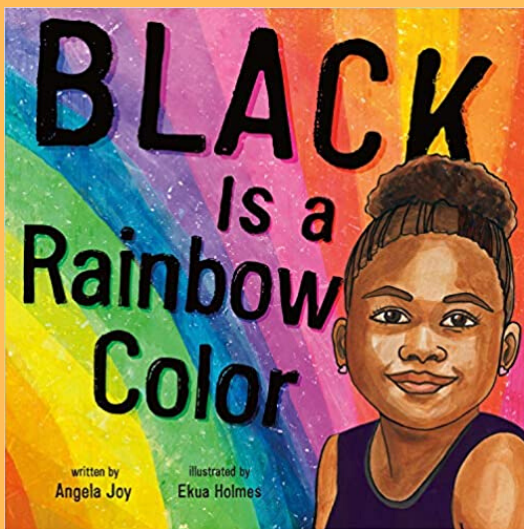




# READING AIDE

## How to Talk To Your Kids About Racism

If you've never talked to your child about race or racism, you may be nervous. First, make sure you check your own biases and decide to speak honestly with your child. Use our selected picture book to start the conversation.



### Questions

- How does this cover make you feel?
- What do you think about when you hear the word "black"?
- How do you think the little girl feels about the word "black"?
- How do you treat your classmates that look like her?

### Activity 1: Instilling Pride in Black Children

After reading this book, go back and review the cultural references in the *More About Black...* section. Choose 2 references for further research. Have your child complete a poster about Black pride, "Why I'm Proud to Be Black", listing things they love about themselves.

### Activity 2: Teaching Your Child to Be An Ally

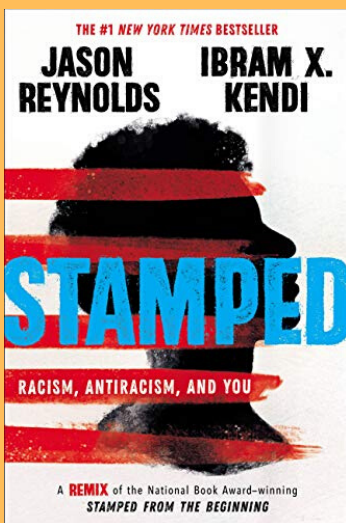
After reading this book, talk to your child about the little girl. Ask, "what would you do if your friends didn't want to play with her because she was different?" "What would you do if she was being bullied, or called names?" Have your child draw a picture or write about how they would take up for a friend.



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Older kids have access to the internet and social media, and have already discussed some issues with their friends. For middle grade and upper-middle grade readers, it is important to give them honest and direct information that may differ from some of the misinformation they receive from the internet. This book is for upper-middle grade and Young Adult readers. If you're not sure where your child is, read the book and decide.



### Questions

- How would you describe an "anti-racist"?
- What do you think about when you hear the word "black"?
- How do you treat your Black peers?
- What is an ally? How do you think you can be an ally to Black people.

### Activity 1: How to Be an Anti-racist

After reading this book, have your child watch a news segment from 2 different networks. Have them compare and contrast how the network discusses race and racism. (You can even choose old clips from Youtube). Discuss how these ideas, and the spreading of these ideas, can harm or help Black people. Have your child write a 2 paragraph response on how they would change the harmful stereotypes or content that was covered.

### Activity 2: Am I A Racist?

After reading this book, read "Letter From a Birmingham Jail" by Martin Luther King, Jr., WITH your child. Stop to explain and review the message. If you need help, there are many resources to help you break down the meaning. Have your child write a comparative response on the differences between a racist and a white moderate. Discuss how each does harm to Black people and how each exhibits racism: one passive and the other (may be) more aggressive.