

## RECOMMENDED READING

### IDENTITY

*All About You: An Adventure of Self-Discovery*

Aylette Jenness  
The New Press, 1993

This book encourages the student to embark on an adventure of self-discovery and knowledge, and through this inquiry, to develop a positive self-image.

*All the Colors of the Race: Poems*

Arnold Adoff  
Beech Tree Books, 1992 (1982)

The poetry of award-winning author Arnold Adoff speaks clearly, lovingly, and engagingly to biracial and bicultural children, helping them to understand their ethnic identity in the face of others' expectations.

*A Bad Case of Stripes/Un Caso Grave de Rayas*

David Shannon  
Scholastic Inc., 2002

Camilla Cream always worries about what other people think of her. In fact, she's so worried on the first day of school that she breaks out with a bad case of stripes. This Spanish-language picture book teaches a powerful lesson about learning to be true to oneself.

*The Christmas Revolution*

Barbara Cohen  
Dell Publishing Group, 1993 (1987)

In this book, Emily and Sally are fraternal twins whose parents are Jewish, but not strict adherents of Judaism. Students will read about how the two sisters come to understand their individual religious beliefs and identity more clearly.

*Family Pictures/Cuadros De Familia*

Carmen Lomas Garza  
Children's Book Press, 1990

In this book, the author relates fond memories of her day-to-day childhood activities. Readers of various ethnic origins will be able to explore diverse multicultural lifestyles.

*My Black Me: A Beginning Book of Black Poetry*

Edited by Arnold Adoff  
Puffin, 1995

This anthology of African-American poetry features the writing of such authors as Langston Hughes, Lucille Clifton and Nikki Giovanni.

*We Adopted You, Benjamin Koo*

Linda Walvoord Girard, Edited by Abbey Levine  
Albert Whitman & Company, 1989

This biography tells the story of the adoption of Korean-born Benjamin Koo by American parents. The author deals effectively with the identity-based problems and benefits of living in a multicultural family.

### CULTURAL TRADITIONS

*Cherokee Summer: Cwy ay*

Diane Hoyt-Goldsmith and Lawrence Migdale  
Holiday House, 1993

An informative photo essay tracing Cherokee history, this title features stories from Cherokee children (aged ten to twelve) based in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. Readers will learn about many cultural traditions of the Cherokee nation, such as stomp-dancing, basket making, and crawdad hunting.

*Extraordinary Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders*

Susan Sinnott  
Children's Press, 2003 (1994)

A guide to notable Americans from Asia and the Pacific Islands, this title spotlights pioneering immigrants, Hawaii's last queen, and present-day figures such as architect Maya Ying Lin and Yahoo cofounder Jerry Yang.

*The Giver*

Lois Lowry  
Yearling Books, 1993

Winner of the Newbery Award and named as an ALA Best Book for Young Adults and ALA Notable Book for Children, Lowry's unforgettable tale introduces 12-year-old Jonas, who is singled out by the Community to be trained by The Giver.

*Standing Tall: The Stories of Ten Hispanic Americans*

Argentina Palacios  
Scholastic Inc., 1994

This compendium of autobiographical sketches reflects the enormous challenges Americans of Puerto Rican, Mexican, Bolivian, and Cuban descent have faced.

### BREAKING DOWN STEREOTYPES

*Alesia*

Eloise Greenfield and Alesia Revis  
Philomel Books, 1981

In this diary-format story, students follow the evolution of a careless nine-year-old, who rides her bicycle into an oncoming car, to a confident young high school graduate. The story line and focus will provide a launching point to discuss disability and what it means personally and in the larger world.

*Blubber*

Judy Blume  
Simon & Schuster, 1982 (1976)

When overweight Linda gives an oral report on whales, the cruel class leader, Wendy, calls her "Blubber." The name-calling crescendos into more bullying and humiliation. Students will come to question the behavior they read about.

*A City Year*

Suzanne Goldsmith  
Transaction Publishers, 1997

In 1990, author Suzanne Goldsmith joined City Year, the Boston-based community service program. *A City Year* is the story of that year—an honest account of triumphs and setbacks.

*Class President*

Johanna Hurwitz  
Morrow Junior Books, 1991 (1990)

This upbeat chapter book tells of a Hispanic fifth grader named Julio Sanchez. Julio's teacher encourages him to engage in new activities and interests that stretch the bounds of how he sees himself, and challenge the prejudices of others.

*Dreams in Harrison Railroad Park*

Nellie Wong  
Kelsey Street Press, 1978

Poet Nellie Wong writes directly from her life and her family history, bringing the cultures of China and Asian America together. Her work spans issues of racism, injustice, and identity.

*History of Women in Science for Young People*

Vivian Sheldon Epstein  
VSE Publishers, 1994

For each of the female scientists it highlights, this book offers a brief biography accompanied by a portrait, and extensive bibliography.

*Racism and Ethnic Bias:  
Everybody's Problem*

Linda Jacobs Altman  
Enslow Publishers, Inc., 2001

This teen-issues book addresses the origins of prejudice and stereotyping and how to address these issues.

*They're All Named Wildfire*

Nancy Springer  
Atheneum Books, 1989

Jenny loses most of her friends and suffers the verbal abuse of classmates when she befriends an African-American girl who shares her interest in horses.

*Walking with the Wind*

John Lewis and Michael D'Orso  
Harcourt Brace, 1998

The son of an Alabama sharecropper and now a U.S. Congressman, John Lewis has led a remarkable life. *Walking with the Wind* offers rare insight into the Civil Rights movement.

**UNDERSTANDING OTHERS,  
BUILDING BRIDGES**

*Aztec, Inca, & Maya*

Elizabeth Baquedano  
Alfred A. Knopf, 1993

Students will learn about three major civilizations through photographs of cities, pottery, jewelry, and clothing set alongside single-paragraph texts.

*The Buffalo Hunt*

Russell Freedman  
Holiday House Inc., 1988

With vividly executed paintings and an informative, accessible text, Freedman presents the many ways that Native Americans hunted buffalo.

*Come Home with Me: A  
Multicultural Treasure Hunt/Ven a  
Mi Casa: Una Busqueda de Tesoro  
Multicultural*

Aylette Jenness  
The New Press, 1993

Four kids from various ethnic backgrounds (Cambodian, Puerto Rican, Irish, and African American) escort readers to their homes, shops, and museums on a search for items representing their cultural traditions.

*Day of Delight: A Jewish Sabbath in  
Ethiopia*

Maxine Rose Schur  
Penguin Books/Dial Books, 1994

Set in Ethiopia, this book depicts how the Jewish Sabbath is celebrated in a far-away land. Menelik, the son of a blacksmith, talks about the black Jews in his small community, using Ethiopian words and phrases.

*Farewell to Manzanar*

Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston and  
James D. Houston  
Bantam Books, 1973

During World War II a community called Manzanar was created with the purpose to house thousands of Japanese-American internees. Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston delivers a powerful first-person account of her childhood spent in internment.

*Look to the Hills: The Diary of  
Lozette Moreau, a French Slave Girl*

Pat McKissack  
Scholastic Inc., 2004

Brought up in France as the African slave companion of a nobleman's daughter, 13-year-old Zettie records the events of 1763, when she and her mistress escape to the New World. They are inadvertently drawn into the hostilities of the ongoing French and Indian War, and eventually find a new direction to their lives.

*Magid Fasts for Ramadan*

Mary Matthews  
Houghton Mifflin, 1996

A boy named Magid is too young to fast for Ramadan. He watches others fasting and wishes he could, too. Unbeknownst to his family, Magid decides to fast as well. His family discovers his secret, and while they reprimand Magid for being dishonest, they applaud him for his faith.

*My Painted House, My Friendly  
Chicken, and Me*

Maya Angelou  
Clarkson Potter Publishers, 1994

In this wonderfully illustrated book, Maya Angelou shows students the Ndebele culture of South Africa through the eyes of an eight-year-old girl, Thandi. She takes students on a tour of her village, introducing us to her family and friends.

*Red Eggs and Dragon Boats*

Carol Stepanchuk  
Pacific View Press, 1993

This attractive introduction to Chinese festivals describes five traditional celebrations: the New Year with its Lantern Festival, the Clear Brightness Festival, a Full Month Red Egg and Ginger Party (for a new baby), the Dragon Boat Festival, and the Moon Festival.

*While every effort has been made to provide the most useful and accurate bibliographic information, different publishers and publication dates for these titles do exist. Check with your local library or Internet resource to locate additional editions.*

## WEB SITES

*Epals*

[www.epals.com/scholastic/index\\_sch.html?seesf=6384968](http://www.epals.com/scholastic/index_sch.html?seesf=6384968)

*Kidlink.org*

[www.kidlink.org/english/general/k/index.html](http://www.kidlink.org/english/general/k/index.html)

*Planet Tolerance*

[www.tolerance.org/pt/index.html](http://www.tolerance.org/pt/index.html)

*Scholastic News*

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/scholasticnews>

[http://teacher.scholastic.com/scholasticnews/indepth/war\\_on\\_terrorism/index.asp](http://teacher.scholastic.com/scholasticnews/indepth/war_on_terrorism/index.asp)

*United Nations: Cyberschoolbus*

[www.un.org/pubs/cyberschoolbus](http://www.un.org/pubs/cyberschoolbus)

*The information from these Web sites was considered valid as of the date of publication of this book. It is important to remember that their content and ownership can change over time. Teachers/families should check these sites prior to future access by children.*