

# Rights & Freedoms

Compiled by Joan Pearce

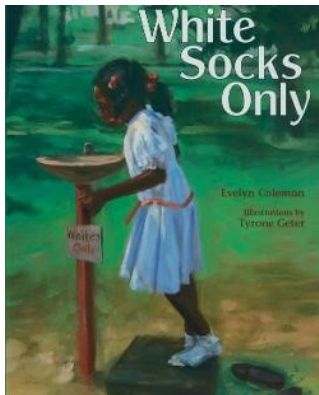
## Picture Book Format



### My Little Book of Big Freedoms

by Chris Riddell, c2017 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.4)

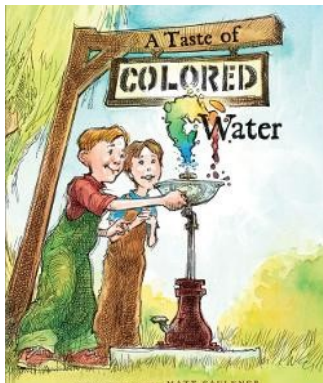
"We all want a good life, to have fun, to be safe, happy, and fulfilled. For this to happen, we need to look after each other and stand up for the basic human rights that we often take for granted. This book features 16 different freedoms, each accompanied by beautiful illustrations." - Pub.



### White Socks Only

by Evelyn Coleman, c2015 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.0)  
(Segregation)

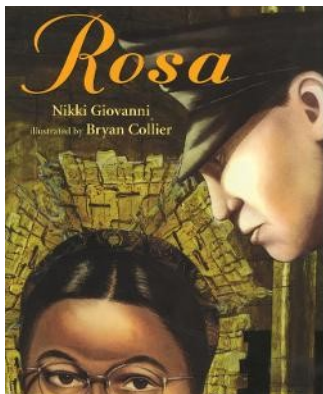
"Grandma tells the story about her first trip alone into town during the days when segregation still existed in Mississippi." - Follett



### A Taste of Colored Water

by Matt Faulkner, c2008 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.5)  
(Segregation)

"Young cousins Lulu and Jelly, inspired by stories told by a classmate, hitch a ride into the city hoping to take a gulp of what they imagine must be some pretty special water that comes from the "colored" drinking fountain." - Follett



### Rosa

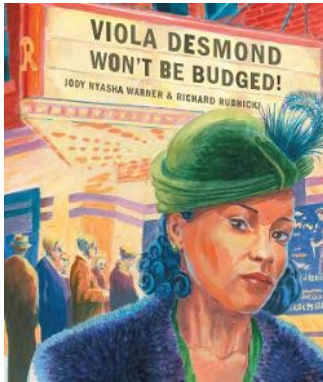
by Nikki Giovanni, c2005 (IL: 3-6, RL: 5.2)  
(Segregation)

"She had not sought this moment but she was ready for it. When the policeman bent down to ask "Auntie, are you going to move?" all the strength of all the people through all those many years joined in her. She said, "No." An inspiring account of an event that shaped American history." - Pub.

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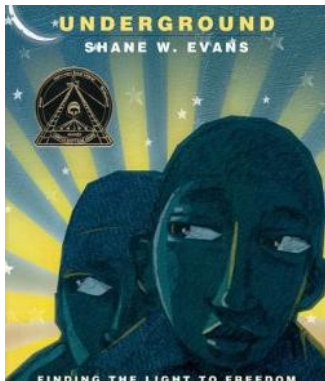
## Picture Book Format



### **Viola Desmond Won't be Budged**

by Jody Nyasha Warner, c2010 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.6)  
(Segregation)

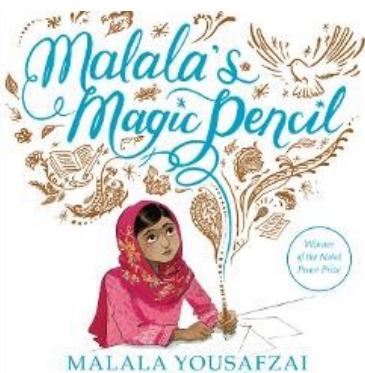
"In 1946, Viola Desmond bought a movie ticket at the Roseland Theatre in Nova Scotia. After settling into a main floor seat, an usher came by and told her to move, because her ticket was only good for the balcony. "You people have to sit in the upstairs section." Viola refused to move. She was hauled off to jail, but her actions gave strength and inspiration to Canada's black community." - Pub.



### **Underground**

by Shane W. Evans, c2011 (IL: K-3, RL: 0.6)  
(Slavery)

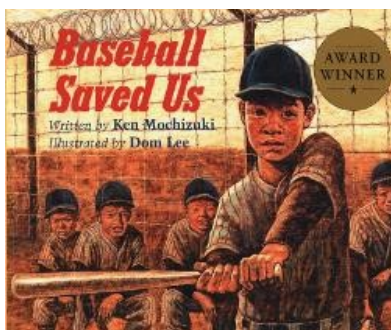
"A family silently crawls along the ground. They run barefoot through unlit woods, sleep beneath bushes, take shelter in a kind stranger's home. Where are they heading? They are heading for Freedom by way of the Underground Railroad." - Pub.



### **Malala's Magic Pencil**

by Malala Yousafzai, c2017 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.6)  
(Education for girls)

"As a child in Pakistan, Malala made a wish for a magic pencil. She would use it to make everyone happy, to erase the smell of garbage from her city, to sleep an extra hour in the morning. But as she grew older, Malala saw that there were more important things to wish for. She saw a world that needed fixing. And even if she never found a magic pencil, Malala realized that she could still work hard every day to make her wishes come true." - OCLC.



### **Baseball Saved Us**

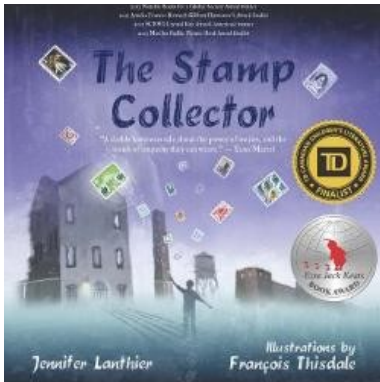
by Ken Mochizuki, c2004 (IL: 3-6, RL: 4.1)  
(Japanese American Internment)

"A Japanese American boy learns to play baseball when he and his family are forced to live in an internment camp during World War II, and his ability to play helps him after the war is over." - Follett

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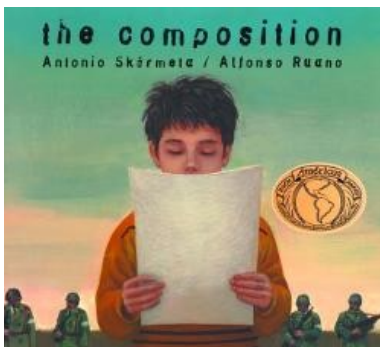
## Picture Book Format



### The Stamp Collector

by Jennifer Lanthier, c2016 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.0)  
(Freedom of speech)

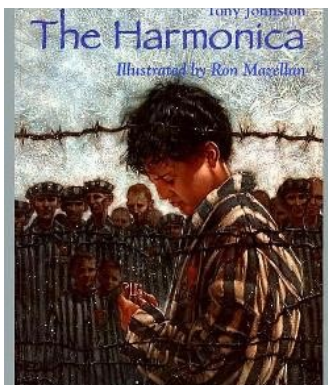
"A city boy finds a stamp that unlocks his imagination; a country boy is captivated by stories. When they grow up, the two boys take different paths—one becomes a prison guard, the other works in a factory—but their early childhood passions remain. When the country boy's stories of hope land him in prison, the letters and stamps sent to him from faraway places intrigue the prison guard and a unique friendship begins."  
- Pub.



### The Composition

by Antonio Skarmeta, c2000 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.9)  
(Freedom of speech, military dictatorship)

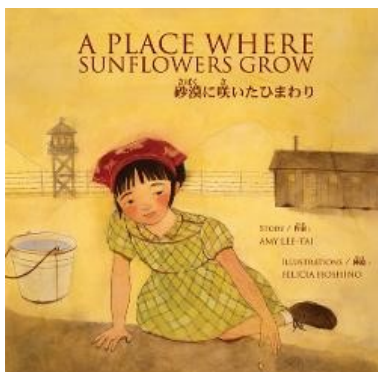
"Pedro is a nine-year-old boy whose main interest in life is playing soccer. The arrest of his friend Daniel's father and a visit to the school of an army captain who wants the children to write a composition entitled "What My Family Does at Night" suddenly force Pedro to make a difficult choice."  
- Pub.



### The Harmonica

by Tony Johnston, c2004 (IL: 3-6, RL: 3.6)  
(Holocaust)

"Torn from his home and parents in Poland during World War II, a young Jewish boy starving in a concentration camp finds hope in playing Schubert on his harmonica, even when the commandant orders him to play."  
- Follett



### A Place Where Sunflowers Grow

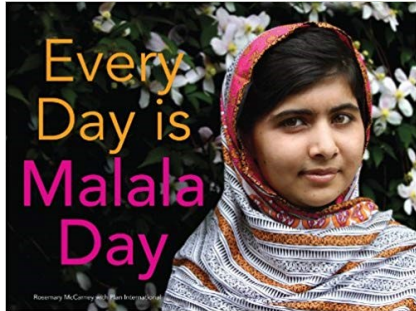
by Amy Lee-Tai, c2006 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.9)  
(Japanese American internment)

"Under the harsh summer sun, Mari's art class has begun. But it's hard to think of anything to draw in a place where nothing beautiful grows — especially a place like Topaz, the internment camp where Mari's family and thousands of other Japanese Americans have been sent to live during World War II. Somehow, glimmers of hope begin to surface — in the eyes of a kindly art teacher, in the tender words of Mari's parents, and in the smile of a new friend."  
- Pub.

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### Every Day is Malala Day

by Rosemary McCarney, c2015 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.4)

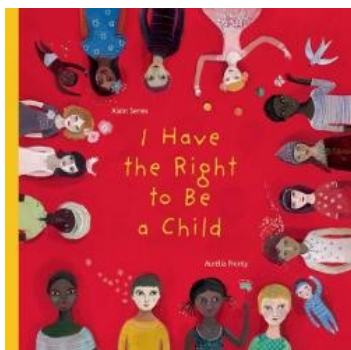
"This is a letter of sisterhood to Malala Yousafzai, written from the perspective of girls around the world who share her belief that every girl has the right to go to school, and who represent the many barriers a girl can face when trying to get an education." - Amazon.ca



### The Way to School

by Rosemary McCarney, c2015 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.5)

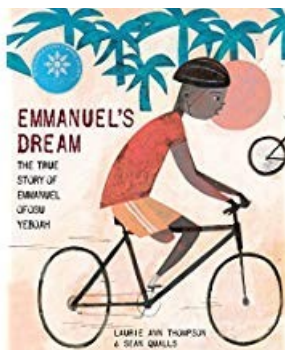
"Minimal text and stunning photographs from around the world describe the remarkable, often dangerous journeys children make every day on their way to and from school. No simple school bus picks them up each day, but rather children travel through disaster zones, cross rapids, climb mountains, and maneuver on ziplines daily to get to the classroom. Some of them even carry their desks!" - Pub.



### I Have a Right to Be a Child

by Alain Serres, c2012 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.4)

"Translation of: 'J'ai le droit d'être un enfant'. A young narrator describes the rights of every child as outlined by the Convention on the Rights of the Child." - Follett



### Emmanuel's Dream: The True Story of Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah

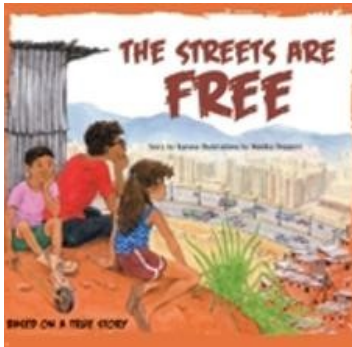
by Laurie Ann Thompson, c2015 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.2)

"Born in Ghana, West Africa, with one deformed leg, he was dismissed by most people—but not by his mother, who taught him to reach for his dreams. As a boy, Emmanuel hopped to school more than two miles each way, learned to play soccer, left home at age thirteen to provide for his family, and, eventually, became a cyclist..." - Pub.

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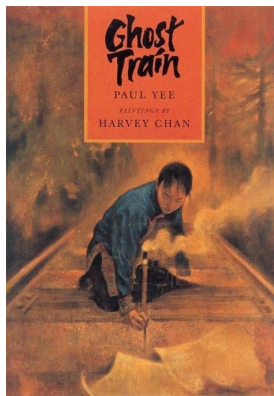
## Picture Book Format



### The Streets Are Free

by Kurusa, c1995 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.0)

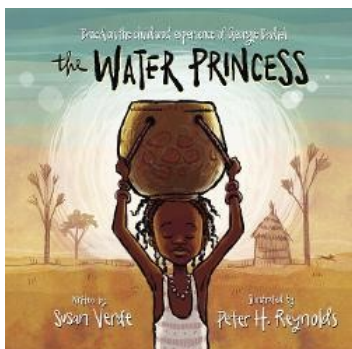
"This inspiring book is based on the true story of the children of the barrio of San Jose de la Urbina in Caracas, Venezuela. There are no parks where they live, and the children must play in the streets. They ask the mayor for an empty lot to build a playground, but all they get are campaign promises. They know that they are the only ones who will make something happen, so they get their friends and family involved until the whole barrio unites to create a space of their own." - Pub.



### Ghost Train

by Paul Yee, c2013 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.6)

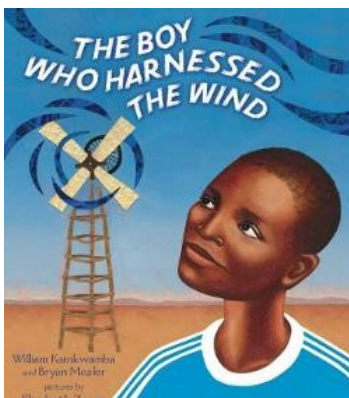
"Choon-yi, a talented artist, travels from China to America to join her father, a railway worker. On arrival she discovers he has died, but he comes to her in a dream, telling her to draw the fire horse. She sets out on a magical journey to bring his soul home." - Follett



### The Water Princess

by Susan Verde, c2016 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.1)

"Based on the childhood experience of Georgie Badiel. The story of one young girl's quest to bring clean drinking water to her African village." - Pub.



### The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind

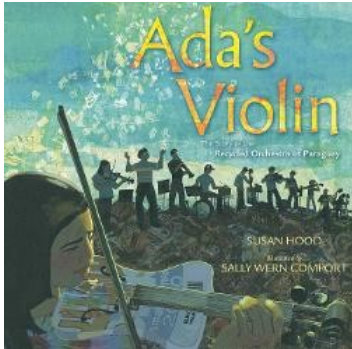
by William Kamkwambac, 2012 (IL: K-3, RL: 5.3)

"The author details how he ignored naysayers and was able to bring electricity and running water to his Malawian village when he built a makeshift windmill out of scrap metal and spare parts." - Follett

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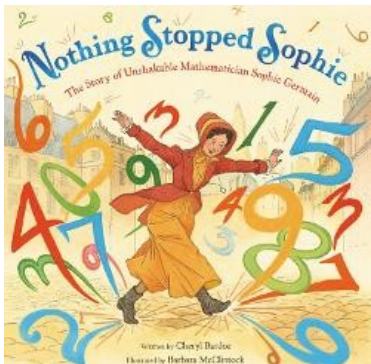
## Picture Book Format



### Ada's Violin: The Story of the Recycled Orchestra of Paraguay

by Susan Hood, c2016 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.0)

"Tells the true tale of an orchestra made up of children playing instruments built from recycled trash called the 'Recycled Orchestra of Paraguay.'" - Follett



### Nothing Stopped Sophie: The Story of Unshakable Mathematician Sophie Germain

by Cheryl Bardoe, c2018 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.0)

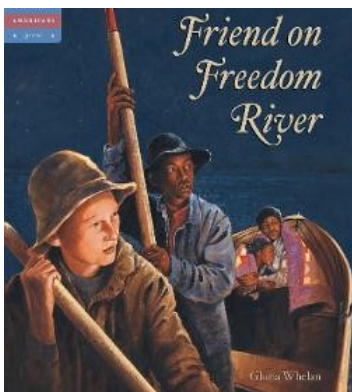
"A biography of Sophie Germain, who grew up during the French Revolution and followed her dream of studying mathematics, becoming the first woman to win a grand prize from the Royal Academy of Sciences and changing the world with her discoveries." - Pub.



### The Girl Who Ran: Bobbi Gibb, the First Woman to Run the Boston Marathon

by Frances Poletti, c2017 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.3)

"In 1966, the world believed it was impossible for a woman to run the Boston Marathon. Bobbi Gibb was determined to prove them wrong." - Pub.



### Friend on Freedom River

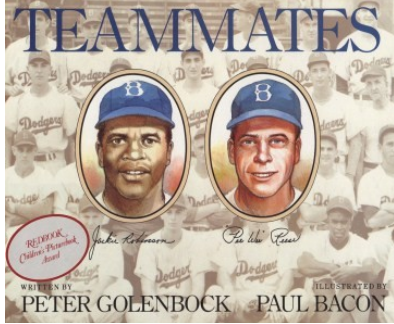
by Gloria Whelan, c2004 (IL: 3-6, RL: 3.6)

"The Winter of 1850 finds young Louis alone with his mother when his father heads north for work, but when runaway slaves ask Louis for help being ferried across the Detroit River he wonders what his father would do." - Follett

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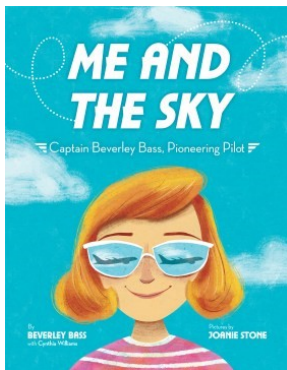
## Picture Book Format



### Teammates

by Peter Golenbock, c1990 (IL: 3-6, RL: 6.5)

"Describes the racial prejudice experienced by Jackie Robinson when he joined the Brooklyn Dodgers to become the first African-American player in Major League baseball and depicts the acceptance and support he received from his white teammate Pee Wee Reese."  
- Follett



### Me and the Sky: Captain Beverley Bass, Pioneering Pilot

by Beverley Bass, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.8)

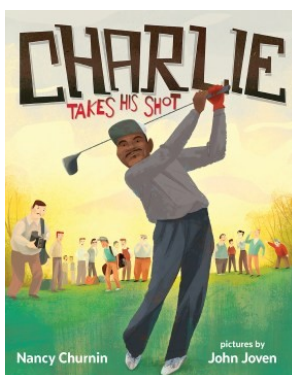
"When Beverley Bass was a young girl in the late 1950s, she told her parents she wanted to fly planes—and they told her that girls couldn't be pilots. Still, they encouraged her, and brought her to a nearby airport to watch the planes take off and land. After decades of refusing to take no for an answer, in 1986 Beverley became the first female pilot promoted to captain by American Airlines and led the first all-female crewed flight shortly thereafter..." - Pub.



### As a Boy

by PLAN International, c2016 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.2)

"Boys around the world are treated differently than girls just because of their gender. They are given an education and choices that girls are not, and their needs and success are often put above those of the girls and women in their families and communities. But boys are also given special burdens. They are expected to be men, to work, to fight, to be brave..." - Pub.



### Charlie Takes His Shot: How Charlie Sifford Broke the Color Barrier in Golf

by Nancy Churnin, c2018 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.8)

"Charlie Sifford loved golf, but in the 1930's only white people were allowed to play in the Professional Golf Association. Sifford had won plenty of black tournaments, but he was determined to break the color barrier in the PGA. In 1960 he did, only to face discrimination from hotels that wouldn't rent him rooms and clubs that wouldn't let him use the same locker as the white players. But Sifford kept playing, becoming the first black golfer to win a PGA tournament and eventually ranking among the greats in golf."  
- Pub.

# Rights & Freedoms

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Novels



## **Sweep: The Story of a Girl and Her Monster** by Jonathan Auxier, c2018 (IL: 5-8, RL: 4.2)

"Orphaned and alone, Nan Sparrow had no other choice but to work for a ruthless chimney sweep...She spends her days sweeping out chimneys...When Nan gets stuck in a chimney fire, she fears the end has come. Instead, she wakes to find herself unharmed in an abandoned attic...Huddled in the corner is a mysterious creature—a golem—made from soot and ash. Sweep is the story of a girl and her monster. Together, these two outcasts carve out a new life-saving each other in the process."  
- Pub.



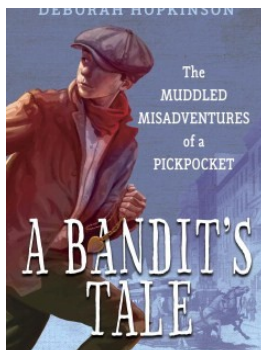
## **Ban This Book** by Alan Gratz, c2018 (IL: 3-6, 4-6; RL: 3.9)

"a fourth grader fights back when 'From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler' by E. L. Konigsburg is challenged by a well-meaning parent and taken off the shelves of her school library. Amy Anne is shy and soft-spoken, but don't mess with her when it comes to her favorite book in the whole world. Amy Anne and her lieutenants wage a battle for the books ... as they start a secret banned books locker library, make up ridiculous reasons to ban every single book in the library to make a point, and take a stand against censorship." - Pub.



## **Front Desk** by Kelly Yang, c2018 (IL: 3-6, 4-7; RL: 4.5)

"Recent immigrants from China and desperate for work and money, ten-year-old Mia Tang's parents take a job managing a rundown motel in Southern California, even though the owner, Mr. Yao is a nasty skinflint who exploits them; while her mother (who was an engineer in China) does the cleaning, Mia works the front desk and tries to cope with demanding customers and other recent immigrants--not to mention being only one of two Chinese in her fifth grade class, the other being Mr. Yao's son, Jason." - Follett



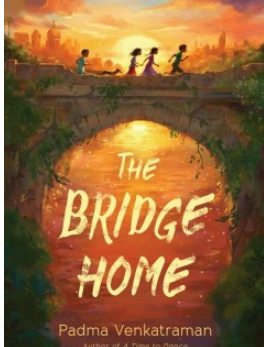
## **A Bandit's Tale** by Deborah Hopkinson, c2016 (IL: 3-6, 4-7; RL: 5.9)

"Eleven-year-old Rocco is an Italian immigrant who finds himself alone in New York City after he's sold to a padrone by his poverty-stricken parents...he meets the boys of the infamous Bandits' Roost, who teach him the art of pick-pocketing. Rocco embraces his new life of crime—he's good at it...But when he meets Meddlin' Mary, a strong-hearted Irish girl who's determined to help the horses of New York City, things begin to change. Rocco begins to re-examine his life—and take his future into his own hands." - Pub.



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*Novels*



## The Bridge Home

by Padma Venkatraman, c2019 (IL: 5-8, RL: 4.4)

"Life is harsh in Chennai's teeming streets, so when runaway sisters Viji and Rukku arrive, their prospects look grim...Fortunately, the girls find shelter--and friendship--on an abandoned bridge. With two homeless boys, Muthi and Arul, the group forms a family of sorts...But when illness strikes, Viji must decide whether to risk seeking help from strangers or to keep holding on to their fragile, hard-fought freedom." - Pub.



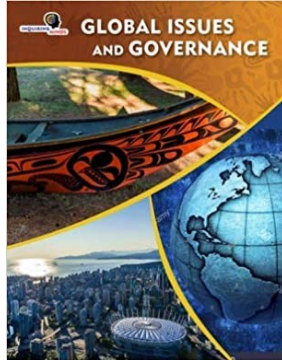
## Extra Credit

by Andrew Clements, c2009 (IL: 3-6, 4-7; RL: 5.2)

"Three young middle-school-age children, Abby, Amira, and Sadeed, exchange letters back and forth between the prairies of Illinois and the mountains of Afghanistan and begin to bridge a gap across cultural and religious divides." - Follett

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*Non-fiction*



## **Global Issues and Governance**

by Susan Doyle, Craig Harding and Steve Powrie, c2017  
Series: Inquiring Minds

"We hope that this book will inspire you to think about problems and issues that Canadians and people around the world face. Problems that may affect your everyday life. Problems that may move you to take action."

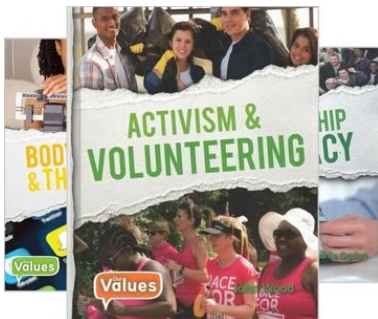
- Pub.



**Series: Well Made, Fair Trade** by Helen Greathead  
Crabtree Publishing, c2016, (IL: 5-8, RL: 6.3-8.5)

### **Titles:**

*My Bed and Other Home Furniture*  
*My Chocolate Bar and Other Foods*  
*My Smartphone and Other Digital Accessories*  
*My T-Shirt and Other Clothing*



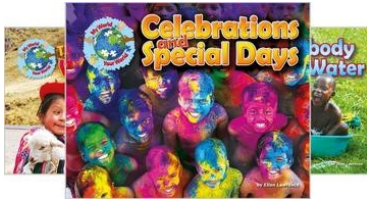
**Series: Our Values—Level 3** by Charlie Ogden  
Crabtree Publishing, c2016-2018, (IL: 5-8, RL: 6.3-8.9)

### **Titles:**

*Censorship and Privacy*  
*Fair Trade and Global Economy*  
*Equality and Diversity*  
*Government & Democracy*  
*Human Rights and Liberty / Identity & Gender*  
*Law and Justice / Peace and War*

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*Non-fiction*

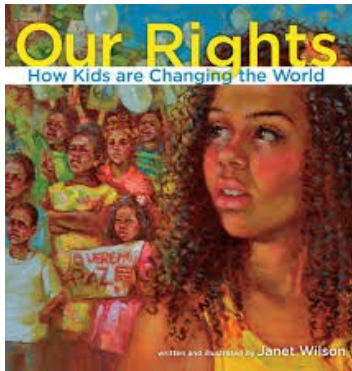


**Series: My World Your World**

by Ellen Lawrence, c2016 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.4-4.8)

**Titles:**

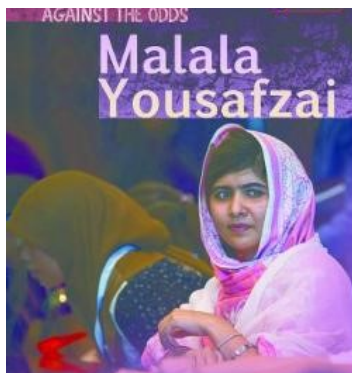
*Everybody Needs Water*  
*A Place to Call Home*  
*Time to Play*  
*Time for School*  
*The Clothes We Wear*  
*The Food We Eat*  
*Celebrations and special Days*  
*How We Get Around*



**Our Rights: How Kids are Changing the World**

by Janet Wilson, c2013 (IL: 3-6, RL: 6.8)

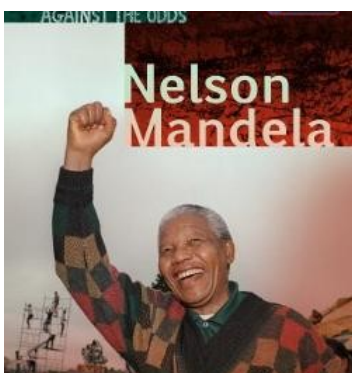
"Describes how children from around the world have stood up for their rights and the rights of others."  
- Follett



**Malala Yousafzai (Series: Against the Odds)**

by Claire Throp, c2016 (IL: 3-6, RL: 6.4)

"This book tells the story of Malala Yousafzai, who has campaigned for education for all children across the world despite being shot by the Taliban for her belief that everyone, including girls, has the right to education." - Pub.



**Nelson Mandela (Series: Against the Odds)**

by Cath Senker, c2016 (IL: 3-6, RL: 7.0)

"This book tells the story of Nelson Mandela, who became South Africa's first black President and helped to end apartheid despite the opposition of the white Afrikaner government." - Pub.

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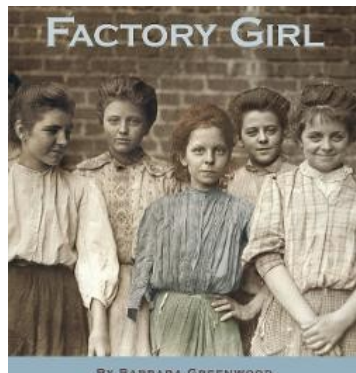
## **STRIKING BACK**

The Fight to End Child Labor Exploitation



### **Striking Back: The Fight to End Child Labor Exploitation** by J. Dennis Robinson, c2007

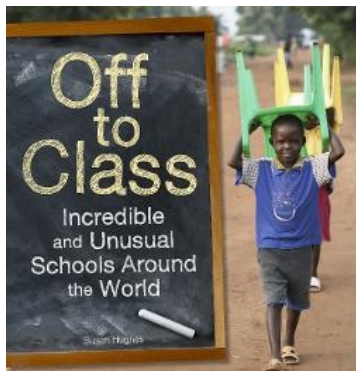
"In 1790 the first water-powered mill in America was run by children, some as young as 7 years old. They were paid pennies for a work day that might last more than 10 hours. As America grew, the children's plight grew worse. Exhausted by six-day work weeks and harsh conditions, millions of young workers had no time to play or go outdoors. They had no childhood. In time children and adults fought back..." - Pub.



### **Factory Girl**

by Barbara Greenwood, c2007 (IL: 5-8, RL: 6.1)

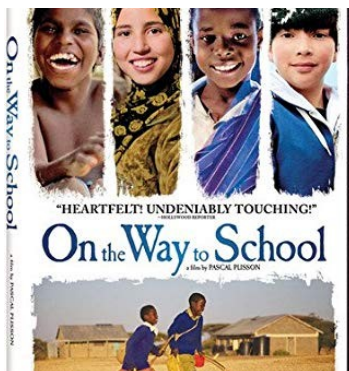
"Presents an historical fiction about Emily, a young child who works eleven hours a day in a garment factory; and includes historical notes about child labor."  
- Follett



### **Off to Class: Incredible and Unusual Schools Around the World**

by Susan Hughes, c2011 (IL: 3-6, RL: 5.2)

"Introduces readers to children from around the world who attend unique schools in strange locations, such as caves, boats, or train platforms, and describes what it is like to attend those schools." - Follett



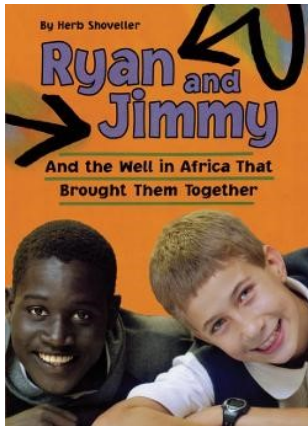
### **On the Way to School (DVD)**

a film by Pascal Plisson, c2014

"These children live in the four corners of the earth, but share the same thirst for learning. They understand that only education will allow them a better future, and that is why every day, they must set out on the long and perilous journey that will lead them to knowledge." - Amazon.ca

# Rights & Freedoms

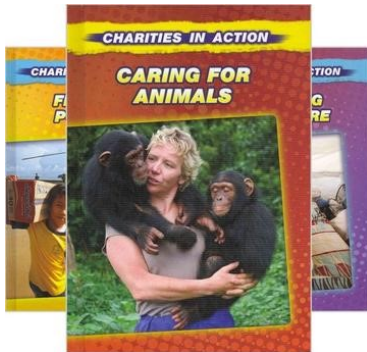
Compiled by Joan Pearce  
*Non-fiction*



## Ryan and Jimmy and the in Africa That Brought Them Together

by Herb Shoveller, c2006 (IL: 3-6, RL: 5.6)

"A life long, loving friendship is created when Jimmy is assigned to be Ryan's pen pal in school after the well is built, and Ryan travels to Uganda to see the fruits of his labor and meet his new friend." - Follett



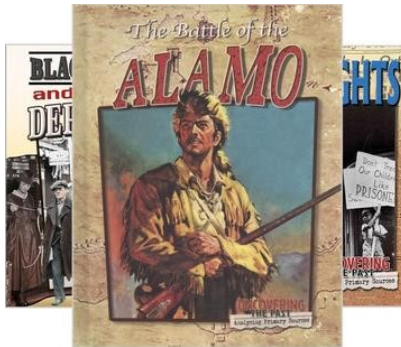
## Fighting Poverty (Series: Charities in Action)

by Nicola Barber, c2012 (IL: 5-8, RL: 7.5-8.9)

"Explores the ways in which charities help individuals facing poverty around the world." - Follett

### Titles:

*Fighting Poverty*  
*Improving Healthcare*  
*Protecting and Caring for Children*  
*Responding to Emergencies*  
*Saving the Environment*

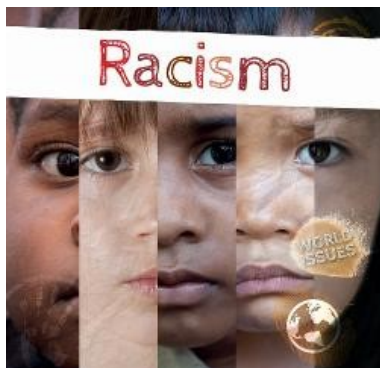


Series: Uncovering the Past: Analyzing Primary Sources by Crabtree Publishing Company, c2016-2018, (IL: 5-8, RL: 7.1-8.9)

\*American focus but good for discussion.

### Titles:

*LGBTQ Rights*  
*Internment Camps*  
*The Underground Railroad*  
*The Displacement of Native Peoples*  
*Women's Suffrage*



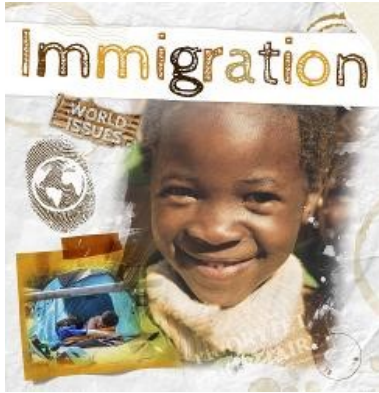
## Racism

by Harriet Brundle, c2017 (IL: 3-6, RL: 7.0)  
(Series: World Issues)

"Includes a case study of Australian Aboriginal people, and a timeline of racism throughout history, from the rise of the Nazi Party to the 1992 Los Angeles Rodney King verdict." - Pub.

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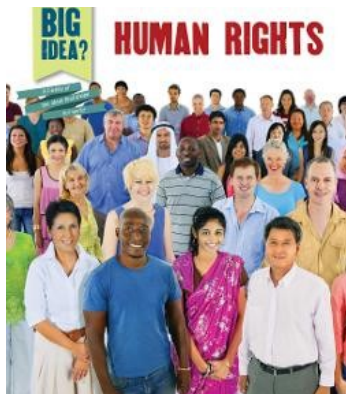
Compiled by Joan Pearce  
*Non-fiction*



## Immigration

by Harriet Brundle, c2017 (IL: 3-6, RL: 7.0)  
(Series: World Issues)

"Includes a case study of Australian Aboriginal people, and a timeline of racism throughout history, from the rise of the Nazi Party to the 1992 Los Angeles Rodney King verdict." - Pub.



## Human Rights

by Tim Cooke, c2018 (IL: 5-8, RL: 8.9)  
(Series: What's the Big Idea?)

"What does it mean to be an immigrant? Why and how do people move to a new home? How does it feel to live in a new country? Includes a timeline of events that have caused large amounts of people to move to a new place, from the Irish Potato Famine to the war in Syria, and a case study of Iraq." - Pub.