



**The International Day for Tolerance**

**Recommended Reading list**

Here are some of our top picks for books approaching discussions around Tolerance

**Reception**

**The Cow that went Oink!** *Bernard Most*

This mixed-up barnyard tale of tolerance and friendship teaches kids (and creatures) that it's okay to be different . . . and sometimes even more fun!

**Giraffes Can’t Dance** *Giles Andrae*

Joyful read about an outsider who finds acceptance on his own terms.... there's also a simple moral about tolerance and daring to be different

**Guji-Guji** *Chen Chih-Yuan*

A brave 'crocoduck' saves his family from becoming duck dinner. Raised from an egg by Mother Duck, Guji Guji is quite content with his life as a duckling, despite the fact that he doesn't look anything like his brothers. Then he meets three nasty creatures who not only convince him that he is, like them, a crocodile, but also try to persuade him to deliver his duck relatives for their dinner.

**The IKadoos** *Virginia mcLean*

Planet IK stands for ‘Infinite Kindness’ and two very curious young IKadoos want to find out how their planet came into existence. Join them on a fizzing, sparkling, philosophical adventure as they discover the epic creation stories told by the keepers of IK wisdom. But who has the real answer?

**Night Monkey Day Monkey** *by Julia Donaldson*

Night Monkey and Day Monkey's worlds are as different as night and day! What one fears, the other one loves, what one understands, only confuses the other. But in learning about each other's opposite worlds and laughing at their own misunderstandings, they learn to be the best of friends.

**No More Teasing** *by Emma Chichester Clark*

Mimi loves her cousin Momo but he teases her all the time and she doesn't like it. When Grandma finds out about it, she and Mimi make a cunning plan—and soon Momo realizes that teasing isn't such a good idea. He and Mimi end up better friends than ever.

**The Colour of Home** *by Mary Hoffman*

This remarkably moving picture book follows first-grader Hassan through his first few days at school. Hassan has only recently arrived in the United States after he and his family were forced to flee Somalia, and he deeply misses the colorful landscape of his former home in Africa. But with the help of his parents, an understanding teacher, and a school art project, Hassan finds that by painting a picture of his old home and sharing his story, his homesickness and the trauma of leaving a war-torn country are lessened.

**The Most Magnificent Mosque** *by Ann Jungman*

Ann Jungman's moving story and Shelley Fowles's captivating images show how cooperation and respect for others can lead to great things

**Y1-2**

**Journey to the Beginning of the World** *Virginia McLean*

Join Sophie and her brother Kit on their quest to find out how the World was made. They meet many characters who claim to have ‘the answer’, but they can’t all be right, can they? A beautiful picture book as well as a powerful resource for teaching the practice of religious tolerance.

**Never Say a Mean Word Again** *Jacqueline Jules*

Inspired by a powerful legend of conflict resolution in Muslim Spain, this is the compelling story of a boy who is given permission to punish an enemy. What will he do?

**The Sneetches** *Dr Seuss*

In 1998 NATO translated this story into Serbo-Croatian and planned to distribute 500,000 copies to children in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as part of a campaign to encourage tolerance. Dr Seuss himself wrote it satirising Intolerance and anti-semitism in particular, in 1953.

The Star-Bellied Sneetches have bellies with Stars, but the Plain-Bellied Sneetches have none upon thars! Rivalries rocket when Sylvester McMonkey McBean steps in to prey on their prejudices, but in the end we realise that prejudice is nothing more than a ridiculous waste of time.

**Red** *Michael Hall*

A blue crayon mistakenly labeled as "red" suffers an identity crisis in this picture book by the New York Times–bestselling creator of My Heart Is Like a Zoo and It's an Orange Aardvark! Funny, insightful, and colourful, Red: A Crayon's Story, by Michael Hall, is about being true to your inner self and following your own path despite obstacles that may come your way. Red will appeal to fans of Lois Ehlert, Eric Carle, and The Day the Crayons Quit.

**The Sandwich Swap** *Queen Rania of Jordan, Kelly DiPucchio*

Lily and Salma are best friends. They like doing all the same things, and they always eat lunch together. Lily eats peanut butter and Salma eats hummus-but what's that between friends? It turns out, a lot. Before they know it, a food fight breaks out. Can Lily and Salma put aside their differences? Or will a sandwich come between them?

The smallest things can pull us apart-until we learn that friendship is far more powerful than difference. In a glorious three-page gatefold at the end of the book, Salma, Lily, and all their classmates come together in the true spirit of tolerance and acceptance.

**Something Else** *Kathryn Cave and illustrated by Chris Riddell.*

Cave and Riddell were awarded the very first international UNESCO prize for Children's and Young People's Literature in the Service of Tolerance for Something Else.

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**Y3-4**

**If the World Were a Village** *David J Smith*

Explains facts about the world's population in a simple and fascinating way. Instead of unimaginable billions, it presents the whole world as a village of just 100 people. We soon find out that 22 speak a Chinese dialect and that 17 cannot read or write. We also discover the people's religions, their education, their standard of living, and much much more...This book provokes thought and elicits questions. It cannot fail to inspire children's interest in world geography, citizenship and different customs and cultures,

**Let’s Talk About Race.** *Julius Lester*

"This stunning picture book introduces race as just one of many chapters in a person's story" (School Library Journal). "Lester's poignant picture book helps children learn, grow, discuss, and begin to create a future that resolves differences" (Children's Literature).

Julius Lester says, "I write because our lives are stories. If enough of these stories are told, then perhaps we will begin to see that our lives are the same story. The differences are merely in the details."

I am a story. So are you. So is everyone.”

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**The Unforgotten Coat** *by Frank Cottrell Boyce (age 8-11)*

"My brother believes he is being chased by a demon... a demon that makes things vanish."

Carnegie Medallist Frank Cottrell Boyce transports readers from the steppe of Mongolia to the streets of Liverpool in a story that is compelling, miraculous and laugh-out-loud funny.

**Ali’s Story** [*by*](http://www.apple.com) *Salvador Maldonado*

This picture book tells the story of 10-year-old refugee Ali who, accompanied by his grandmother, flees his home country of Afghanistan to avoid the conflict caused by war.

**Number the Stars** *Lois Lowry (age 8-10)*

A powerful story set in Nazi occupied Denmark in 1943. Ten-year-old Annemarie Johansen is called upon for a selfless act of bravery to help save her best-friend, Ellen – a Jew.

**Cloud Busting** *by Malorie Blackman (age 8-11)*

Despite his Mum's insistence, Sam doesn't want to be friends with Davey, he thinks Davey's a first class, grade A, top of the dung heap moron. But one day Davey saves Sam's life and a bond is formed between them. Sam is still embarrassed to be seen with Davey, but little by little he has to admit, when it's just the two of them, Davey is a lot of fun. But then something terrible happens to Davey. . . Told in verse, in first person, this is the touching story of an extraordinary friendship, that changes two boys lives for ever.

**Girl with a White Dog** *by Anne Booth (age 8-11)*

Jessie is excited when her gran gets a white Alsatian puppy, but with Snowy's arrival a mystery starts to unfold. As Jessie learns about Nazi Germany at school, past and present begin to slot together and she uncovers something long-buried, troubling and somehow linked to another girl and another white dog…

**Y5-6**

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**Wonder** *R J Palacio*

"Is it always going to be like this?" Auggie asks his mother when he had been brought especially low. What marks him out is a terrible facial abnormality, caused by a mutant gene, which has resulted in him having 27 operations.

Early in the book, August says: "I won't describe what I look like. Whatever you're thinking, it's probably worse.” Thankfully, society has moved on in many ways and intolerance is now sometimes confronted properly by the people who count. This is shown in Auggie's humane, bold headmaster, Mr Tushman, who emphasises how easy it is to hurt people and how we all have in us the choice always to be kind. Each book in the series presents a different character’s perspective of the story.

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**Oddly Normal** *Otis Frampton* (graphic novel)

Join Oddly as she navigates a strange new school, monstrous bullies, and Evil itself on an unforgettable fantasy adventure through the vibrant world of Fignation.

**Boy Overboard** *Morris Gleitzman* (Y4-6)

Jamal loves playing football, which isn't easy if your goalie only has one leg and you keep having to dodge landmines to get your ball back. Jamal's stubborn little sister Bibi is even better at football than Jamal. But girls playing football is against the law in Afganistan. When it is discovered that Jamal's mother has been secretly running a school, the family must leave their home immediately and begin a long and dangerous journey to Australia. The children survive separation from their parents, hunger, and violent smugglers only to find that Australia isn't as welcoming as they had thought but, even though they face an uncertain future, Jamal, Bibi and their parents know that as long as they are together, that is all that matters.

“Although a lot of my work has looked at social problems and questions, I think of myself primarily as a humanist. What interests me most is writing about young people who aren’t afraid of grappling with problems. I like to explore the ways in which people struggle against things that can’t be totally overcome but find ways of not being crushed.

Hollywood, in fact human culture going back millennia, has always thrown up heroes who have an absolute mastery over whatever problems they are grappling with. You know that they are going to be victorious in the end. This, however, is not the experience most people, and certainly not young people, have. I guess I’ve tried to champion a different type of hero, one that is heroic because they don’t give up.”

**Cloud Busting *by Malorie Blackman*** (age 8-11)

Despite his Mum's insistence, Sam doesn't want to be friends with Davey, he thinks Davey's a first class, grade A, top of the dung heap moron. But one day Davey saves Sam's life and a bond is formed between them. Sam is still embarrassed to be seen with Davey, but little by little he has to admit, when it's just the two of them, Davey is a lot of fun. But then something terrible happens to Davey. . . Told in verse, in first person, this is the touching story of an extraordinary friendship, that changes two boys lives for ever.

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**Yankee Girl** *by Mary Ann Rodman* (age 9-12)

An unflinching story about racism and culture clash in the 1960s.

**How to be Invisible** *by Tim Lott* (age 10+)

Strato Nyman couldn’t be more of an odd-one-out. He’s the only black kid in Hedgecombe-upon-Dray, he knows more about particle physics than his teacher, and he’s constantly picked on by school bully Lloyd Archibald Turnbull. It’s only at home

that he blends in to the background – his parents are too busy arguing to notice he exists. But one day, Strato picks up a dusty old book in a mysterious bookshop and learns how to become invisible. He soon discovers that people aren’t always what they seem … and realizes standing out isn’t so bad after all.

**The Weight of Water** *by Sarah Crossan* (age 10+)

Armed with a suitcase and an old laundry bag filled with clothes, Kasienka and her mother head for England. Life is lonely for Kasienka. At home her mother's heart is breaking and at school friends are scarce. But when someone special swims into her life, Kasienka learns that there might be more than one way for her to stay afloat."The Weight of Water" is a startlingly original piece of fiction; most simply a brilliant coming of age story, it also tackles the alienation experienced by many young immigrants. Moving, unsentimental and utterly page-turning, we meet and share the experiences of a remarkable girl who shows us how quiet courage prevails.

**Trash** *by Andy Mulligan* (age 10+)

Andy Mulligan has written a powerful story about unthinkable poverty—and the kind of hope and determination that can transcend it. With twists and turns, unrelenting action, and deep, raw emotion, Trash is a heart-pounding, breath-holding novel.

**Fattipuffs and Thinnifers** *by Andre Maurois*

is a 1941 translation of the French children's book Patapoufs et Filifers originally written in 1930 by André Maurois. It concerns the imaginary underground land of the fat and congenial Fattypuffs and the thin and irritable Thinifers, which is visited by the Double brothers, the plump Edmund and the thin Terry. Fattypuffs and Thinifers do not mix, and their respective countries are on the verge of war when Edmund and Terry make their visit.

**Y6+**

To Kill a Mocking Bird

Diary of Anne Frank

Lord of the Flies

Let’s Talk About Race. Julius Lester

Yankee Girl