Responding to January 6, 2021

It's been an eventful week. January 6, 2021, might be in the past but its consequences reach far into the future. Many kids right now are scared, anxious, or simply curious. So how can you help? Below is a selection of books that you can check out through the Dobbs Ferry Public Library and resources that you can find online. They touch upon activism, race, mental health, and civics. This list was compiled by Gina Elbert (Dobbs Ferry Children's Librarian), Lauren Rodriguez (Springhurst Elementary Librarian), and Ellen Elsen (Dobbs Ferry Middle/High School Librarian).

Birth - Grade 4

*Woke: A Young Poet's Call to Justice* by Mahogany L. Brown with Elizabeth Acevedo and Olivia Gatwood
This collection of poetry by women of color explores social justice, activism, empathy, mental health, and discrimination.

*Something Happened in Our Town* by Marianne Celano, Marietta Collins, and Anne Hazzard
This picture book aims to answer children’s questions about traumatic events rooted in racism and to help children identify and counter racial injustice in their own lives.

*All Because You Matter* by Tami Charles
This picture book empowers readers with pride, joy, and comfort, reminding them of their roots and strengthening them for the days to come. You can view a reading of it by DFPL Children's Librarian Gina on the DFPL YouTube page [here](#).
**Antiracist Baby** by Ibram X. Kendi
Illustrations and rhyming text in this picture book present nine steps Antiracist Baby can take to improve equity, such as opening our eyes to all skin colors and celebrating all our differences.

**The Breaking News** by Sarah Lynne Reul
This charmingly illustrated debut picture book touches on themes of community, resilience, and optimism with an authenticity that will resonate with readers young and old.

**Here and Now** by Julia Denos
This picture book celebrates mindfulness and can help children root themselves in the present moment by noticing the positive aspects around them.

**The Rabbit Listened** by Cori Doerrfeld
This picture book is about how to comfort and heal the people in your life by taking the time to carefully, lovingly, gently listen.

**Resist: 35 Profiles of Ordinary People Who Rose Up Against Tyranny and Injustice** by Veronica Chambers
A perfect tool for young readers as they grow into the leaders of tomorrow, Veronica Chambers’s inspiring collection of profiles—along with Senator Cory Booker’s stirring foreword—will inspire readers of all ages to stand up for what’s right.
**Blended** by Sharon M. Draper
This novel follows piano-prodigy Isabella, eleven, whose black father and white mother struggle to share custody, never feels whole, especially as racial tensions affect her school, her parents both become engaged, and she and her stepbrother are stopped by police.

**This Book is Anti-Racist** by Tiffany Jewell
Learn about social identities, the history of racism and resistance against it, and how you can use your anti-racist lens and voice to move the world toward equity and liberation.

**This is Our Constitution: What It Is and Why It Matters** by Khizr Khan
The author traces his family's experiences immigrating to the U.S. to introduce the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, explaining how it represents America's democratic values and discussing the importance of the documents' history.

**Making it Right: Building Peace, Settling Conflict** by Marilee Peters
This book for middle grade readers relates true stories of young people who are working in innovative ways to further peaceful resolution of conflict and to heal past wounds.
**March, Books 1-3** by John Lewis
This graphic book blends history, biography, and memoir to teach tweens and teens about John Lewis and his involvement in the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s.

**Ghost Boys** by Jewell Parker Rhodes
This novel follows seventh-grader Jerome after a white police shoots him. He observes the aftermath of his death and meets the ghosts of other fallen black boys including historical figure Emmett Till.

**Grades 9-12**

**All American Boys** by Brandon Kiely and Jason Reynolds
When sixteen-year-old Rashad is mistakenly accused of stealing, classmate Quinn witnesses his brutal beating at the hands of a police officer who happens to be the older brother of his best friend. Told through Rashad and Quinn's alternating viewpoints.
**True or False: A CIA Analyst's Guide to Spotting Fake News** by Cindy L. Otis
Otis, a former CIA analyst, takes readers from the ancient Egyptians to the founding fathers to the present day to show the history and impact of misinformation over the centuries. She shares actionable tips on how to spot fake news, and how to make sense of the information we receive each day.

**Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You** by Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi
You might recognize this best-selling book, which is a history of racist and antiracist ideas in America, from their roots in Europe until today. It was adapted from the National Book Award winner *Stamped from the Beginning*.

**Just Mercy: Adapted for Young Adults** by Bryan Stevenson
Bryan Stevenson delves deep into the broken U.S. justice system, detailing from his personal experience his many challenges and efforts as a lawyer and social advocate, especially on behalf of America's most rejected and marginalized people.

**Dear Martin** by Nic Stone
Writing letters to the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., seventeen-year-old college-bound Justyce McAllister struggles to face the reality of race relations today and how they are shaping him.
The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas
After witnessing her friend's death at the hands of a police officer, Starr Carter's life is complicated when the police and a local drug lord try to intimidate her in an effort to learn what happened the night Kahlil died. This novel is a New York Times bestseller.

Support for Parents

- **Slow It Down** is mindfulness exercise from Sesame Street in Communities. They also have a lot of great pandemic resources for kids!
- **Helping Families Cope** is webpage with resources for traumatic situations curated by Sesame Street in Communities.
- **Helping Kids Navigate Scary News Stories** is a blog post from PBS Kids that is recommended by the NYC Department of Education.
- **Racism and Violence: How to Help Kids Handle the News** is a blog post from the Child Mind Institute that is similar to that from PBS Kids above, but is more detailed.
- **Radical Self-Care for parents** is a blog post from Psychology Today recommended by the NYC Department of Education.
- **17 Tips to Steer Kids of All Ages Through the Political Season** is a list of tips from Common Sense Media on how to talk to kids about the political climate.
- **Mr. Rogers’ Look for the Helpers** is a clip from Mr. Rogers’ Neighborhood. It is often referenced by media in times of conflict.
- **How to Talk to Kids About Violence, Crime, and War** is another Common Sense Media post with guidelines for talking to kids about difficult topics.
- **Hard Conversations And Finding The Right Words** is a detailed list of questions and answers from GoNoodle that will helps adults speak to their children about what's going on right now in the news.