

At Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Milwaukee, we believe we are all on a journey to educate ourselves about diversity, racism, and violence and to learn from other perspectives. We have compiled book and media recommendations for Bigs, Parents, and youth. Bigs and Families are encouraged to reach out to their Match Support Specialists for additional support or guidance. Bigs are encouraged to consult with their Little's Parent/Caregiver to make decisions about whether any of these materials would be helpful and appropriate for their mentoring match.

ADULT BOOKS

- *How To Be An Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi
- *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo
- *Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together?* By Beverly Daniel Tatum
- *So You Want to Talk About Race* by Ijeoma Oluo
- *The New Jim Crow* by Michelle Alexander
- *The Color of Law* by Richard Rothstein
- *When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir* by Patrisse Khan-Cullors and Asha Bandele

YOUNG ADULT BOOKS

- *You Should See Me in a Crown* by Leah Johnson
- *Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You* by Ibram X. Kendi and Jason Reynolds
- *We've Got a Job: The 1963 Birmingham Children's March* by Cynthia Levinson
- *Fighting for Justice: Fred Korematsu Speaks* by Laura Atkins and Stan Yogi
- *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas
- *March: Book One* by John Lewis
- *Resist* by Veronica Chambers
- *We Are Not Yet Equal* by Tonya Bolden
- *Dear Martin* by Nic Stone
- *The Stars Beneath Our Feet* by David Barclay Moore

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

- *We're Different, We're the Same and We're Wonderful* by Bobbi Kates
- *Antiracist Baby* by Ibram X. Kendi
- *A is for Activist* by Innosanto Nagara
- *Counting on Community* by Innosanto Nagara
- *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats
- *The Last Stop* by Matt de la Pena
- *Let's Talk About Race* by Julius Lester
- *I Am Enough* by Grace Byers
- *Island Born* by Junot Diaz
- *Skin Like Mine* by Latashia M. Perry
- *All Are Welcome* by Alexandra Penfold and Suzanne Kaufman
- *Hair Love* by Matthew A. Cherry

FILMS AND DOCUMENTARIES

We recommend the following movies from a variety of streaming services (Netflix, Amazon Prime, Hulu):

THE AFRICAN AMERICANS: MANY RIVERS TO CROSS

Rating: 6th grade & up

This is a PBS documentary series that goes through the comprehensive history of how Black people have lived and been treated in America, from slavery to now.

JUST MERCY

Rating: PG-13

This movie was released earlier this year and it is a must-watch film. It tells the true story of Walter McMillian, who, with the help of young defense attorney Bryan Stevenson, appeals his murder conviction. The film, starring Jamie Foxx and Michael B. Jordan explains how too many innocent Black men are on death row, with very little evidence to support their sentencing.

THE HATE U GIVE

Rating: PG-13

A teenager witnesses her childhood best friend get shot by a cop, and she must decide if she is going to testify on the stand or not. It is a great film that shows how two different groups of people can react to fatal police shootings.

SELMA

Rating: PG-13

Ava DuVernay directed this film, which depicts when Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. marched in Selma, Alabama, even though protesters were met with intense violence from police.

THE DEATH AND LIFE OF MARSHA P. JOHNSON

Rating: 16 years and older

There wouldn't be a Pride if it weren't for Marsha P. Johnson. She is one of the most important activists from the LGBTQ community, and more people need to know about the incredible work she did.

WHOSE STREETS?

Rating: 16 years and older

Want to learn more about the unrest in Ferguson, Missouri, which happened after police shot 18-year-old Michael Brown? The documentary tells the story of the days of protests, unrest and riots that followed.

DETROIT

Rating: 16 years and older

Ever heard of the Detroit riots and uprising that happened in 1967? It was days of civil unrest between police and civilians, and it changed the city of Detroit forever. This 2017 movie depicts some of what happened during that long, hot summer.

13th

Rating: Mature teens and up

Directed by Ava DuVernay, this documentary shows you how America changed after the 13th Amendment, which abolished slavery, but also kick started the prison boom in America.

LA 92

Rating: R

This documentary is about the Rodney King trial, including the protests and riots that surrounded his case in the early '90s.

MOONLIGHT

Rating: R

This Oscar-winning picture tells the story of a young black gay man living in Miami. It's a coming-of-age story, and the injustices that he faces make the film even more compelling.

IF BEALE STREET COULD TALK

Rating: R

Regina King won an Oscar for her work in "If Beale Street Could Talk," which is based on the novel by James Baldwin. The story follows a young couple trying to find their place in the world, only to be faced with racism at every turn.

MOVIES THAT CELEBRATE DIVERSITY

HIDDEN FIGURES

Rating: PG

Hidden Figures is based on the incredible true story of three African-American female mathematicians who dealt with many challenges around race and gender as they became an important part of NASA and the U.S. space program.

WONDER

Rating: PG

Auggie, the main character in Wonder (which is based on a book), was born with facial differences and is entering a mainstream school for the first time. This movie features themes of compassion and acceptance and teaches us that the differences we all have simply add to the richness of our lives, not take away from it.

COCO

Rating: PG

This animated film features an all-Latino cast and shares the story of Miguel, a 12-year-old Mexican boy who is an aspiring musician. Miguel goes into the Land of the Dead to find his great-great-grandfather and the movie highlights many details of daily life in Mexico.

SPELLING THE DREAM

Rating: PG

Spelling the Dream is a documentary that spotlights four Indian-American students at the 2017 Scripps National Spelling Bee, the country's most prestigious spelling competition. The filmmakers follow the four hopefuls leading up to the event, taking a look at their preparation, commitment, and family involvement.

AKEELAH AND THE BEE

Rating: PG

Akeelah is an 11-year-old girl living in a predominately Black neighborhood and goes to compete at the Scripps National Spelling Bee. The film explores the unique pressure that Akeelah feels, as well as the discrimination she faces from the families of other competitors.

REMEMBER THE TITANS

Rating: PG

Taking place in Virginia in 1971, Remember the Titans is based on the true story of a newly integrated high school football team and the struggles around racial tensions, both on and off the field.

THE BOY WHO HARNESSSED THE WIND

Rating: PG

This is a film based on a true story. The Boy Who Harnessed The Wind is about 13-year-old William Kamkwamba and how he discovers a way to save his Malawian village from famine. The movie explores themes around poverty and political unrest.

BIG HERO 6

Rating: PG

The movie is an unconventional origin story that focuses on the power of brotherhood, friendship, and using your gifts to help others. The movie does deal with grief and a bit of violence, but with its diverse cast and uplifting message, Big Hero 6 is a captivating adventure story for the entire family.

WADJDA

Rating: PG

Wadjda is the first Saudi Arabian movie to be directed by a woman, and it centers on an independent girl who wants to ride a bicycle, wear sneakers, and be able to compete against her best friend—a boy in the neighborhood. The movie explores the various religious traditions and laws that many Muslim girls and women follow, especially when it comes to dress and submitting to men in authority. It is subtitled, so better suited for older kids and teens.

RUBY BRIDGES

Rating: PG

You may have been hearing about Ruby Bridges recently. Ruby was the first African American child to attend an all-white school in the south in 1960. Ruby Bridges, now age 65, is an American civil rights activist. Ruby Bridges shares Ruby's real-life experience and showcases the struggles and racist environment she had to fight through as a 6-year-old.

PODCASTS

- Imani State of Mind
- AFFIRM
- Melanin + Mental Health
- Fireflies Unite
- Therapy for Black Girls
- Moving Upstream (specifically for youth)
- Hey Black Child: The Podcast