This list was created in light of the events surrounding the murder of George Floyd. It is intended to help youth in grades 6-12 process the information and the protests. There are resources for all races and for those that wish to help. This is intended as an informational resource and not all books have been read by those who created it.

Katy Kania, Head of Teen Services, Robbins Library
Robin Brenner, Teen Librarian, Public Library of Brookline
Maddi Ranieri, Youth Services Librarian, Medford Public Library

For more resources check out this document put together by national librarians.
BLEND **ED**

*by Sharon Draper*

*Grades 4-7*

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.

A GOOD KIND OF TROUBLE

*by Lisa Moore Ramée*

*Grades 5-7*

After attending a powerful protest, Shayla starts wearing an armband to school to support the Black Lives Matter movement, but when the school gives her an ultimatum, she is forced to choose between her education and her identity.

GHOST BOYS

*by Jewell Parker Rhodes*

*Grades 4-8*

After seventh-grader Jerome is shot by a white police officer, he observes the aftermath of his death and meets the ghosts of other fallen black boys including historical figure Emmett Till.
MIDNIGHT WITHOUT A MOON

by Linda Williams Jackson
Grades 5-7

Rose Lee Carter, a thirteen-year-old African-American girl, dreams of life beyond the Mississippi cotton fields during the summer of 1955, but when Emmett Till is murdered and his killers are unjustly acquitted, Rose is torn between seeking her destiny outside of Mississippi or staying and being a part of an important movement.

MINUTEMAN  OVERDRIVE BOOK

THE ONLY BLACK GIRLS IN TOWN

by Brandy Colbert
Grades 5-7

In a predominately white California beach town, the only two black seventh-graders, Alberta and Edie, find hidden journals that uncover family secrets and speak to race relations in the past.

MINUTEMAN  OVERDRIVE BOOK  OVERDRIVE AUDIO

THINGS TOO HUGE TO FIX BY SAYING SORRY

by Susan Vaught
Grades 5-8

A family mystery leads Dani Beans to investigate the secrets of Ole Miss and the dark history of race relations in Oxford, Mississippi.

MINUTEMAN  OVERDRIVE BOOK
HOW HIGH THE MOON
by Karyn Parsons
Grades 5-8

Eleven-year-old Ella seeks information about her father while enjoying a visit with her mother, a jazz singer, in Boston in 1944, then returns to the harsh realities of segregated, small-town South Carolina.

HUSH
by Jacqueline Woodson
Grades 6-9

Evie Thomas is not who she used to be. Once she had a best friend, a happy home and a loving grandmother living nearby. Once her name was Toswiah. Now, everything is different. Her family has been forced to move to a new place and change their identities. And Evie, struggling to find her way in a new city where kids aren't friendly and the terrain is as unfamiliar as her name, wonders who she is.

THE SILENCE OF OUR FRIENDS
by Mark Long & Jim Demonakos, art by Nate Powell
Grades 6 + up

This semi-autobiographical tale is set in 1967 Texas, against the backdrop of the fight for civil rights. A white family from a notoriously racist neighborhood in the suburbs and a black family from its poorest ward cross Houston's color line, overcoming humiliation, degradation, and violence to win the freedom of five black college students unjustly charged with the murder of a policeman.
MONSTER
by Walter Dean Myers
Grades 7 + up

While on trial as an accomplice to a murder, sixteen-year-old Steve Harmon records his experiences in prison and in the courtroom in the form of a film script as he tries to come to terms with the course his life has taken.

THE LONG RIDE
by Marina Budhos
Grades 7 + up

In New York in 1971, Jamila and Josie are bused across Queens where they try to fit in at a new, integrated junior high school while their best friend, Francesca, tests the limits at a private school.

HOW IT WENT DOWN
by Kekla Magoon
Grades 7 + up

When sixteen-year-old Tariq Johnson is shot to death, his community is thrown into an uproar because Tariq was black and the shooter, Jack Franklin, is white, and in the aftermath everyone has something to say, but no two accounts of the events agree.
SLAY
by Brittney Morris
Grades 7 + up

Kiera Johnson is an honors student, a math tutor, and one of the few Black kids at Jefferson Academy. At home she joins hundreds of thousands of Black gamers who duel worldwide as Nubian personas in the secret online role-playing card game, SLAY. When a teen is murdered over a dispute in the SLAY world, the game is labeled a racist, exclusionist, violent hub for thugs and criminals. No one knows Kiera is the game developer -- until an anonymous troll infiltrates the game, threatening to sue Kiera for "anti-white discrimination." Can she protect her game without losing herself in the process?

ALL AMERICAN BOYS
by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely
Grades 8 + up

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.

LOVING VS. VIRGINIA
by Patricia Hruby Powell
Grades 8 + up

Written in blank verse, the story of Mildred Loving, an African American girl, and Richard Loving, a Caucasian boy, who challenged the Virginia law forbidding interracial marriages in the 1950s.
DREAMLAND BURNING
by Jennifer Latham
Grades 8 + up

When Rowan finds a skeleton on her family's property, investigating the brutal, century-old murder leads to painful discoveries about the past. Alternating chapters tell the story of William, another teen grappling with the racial firestorm leading up to the 1921 Tulsa race riot, providing some clues to the mystery.

WATCH US RISE
by Renée Watson and Ellen Hagan
Grades 8 + up

Jasmine and Chelsea are best friends on a mission--they're sick of the way women are treated even at their progressive NYC high school, so they decide to start a Women's Rights Club. They post their work online--poems, essays, videos of Chelsea performing her poetry, and Jasmine's response to the racial microaggressions she experiences--and soon they go viral.

ANGER IS A GIFT
by Mark Oshiro
Grades 8 + up

Six years ago, Moss Jefferies' father was murdered by an Oakland police officer. Along with losing a parent, the media's vilification of his father and lack of accountability has left Moss with crippling panic attacks. Now in his sophomore year of high school, Moss and his classmates find themselves treated like criminals in their own school. New rules. Random locker searches. Constant intimidation and Oakland Police Dept stationed in their halls. The students decide to organize and push back against the administration. When tensions hit a fever pitch and tragedy strikes, Moss must face a difficult choice: give in to fear and hate or realize that anger can actually be a gift.
BLACK ENOUGH: STORIES OF BEING YOUNG & BLACK IN AMERICA
edited by Ibi Zoboi
Grades 9 + up

A collection of short stories explore what it is like to be young and black, centering on the experiences of black teenagers and emphasizing that one person's experiences, reality, and personal identity are different than someone else's.

I AM ALFONSO JONES
by Tony Medina
Art by Stacey Robinson & John Jennings
Grades 9 + up

In this graphic novel, the ghost of fifteen-year-old Alfonso Jones travels in a New York subway car full of well-known victims of police shootings, watching his family and friends fight for justice after he is killed by an off-duty police officer while buying a suit in a Midtown department store.

I'M NOT DYING WITH YOU TONIGHT
by Kimberly Jones and Gilly Segal
Grades 9 + up

Told from two viewpoints, it's the story of Atlanta high school seniors Lena, who's Black, and Campbell, who's white. Both girls attend the Friday night football game. What neither of them expects is for it to turn into a violent riot. They aren't friends. They hardly understand the other's point of view. But they only have each other to rely on if they're going to survive the night.
DUTY OR DESIRE
by Patrick Jones and Marshunna Clark
Grades 9 + up

In this adaptation of Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra*, Alejandro and Chrissie, teens from opposite sides of Minneapolis, are drawn together over their shared experience of brutal police attacks, but while Alejandro struggles with divided loyalties between his duty to his family and crew and his obsessive love, Chrissie debates whether to pursue justice or just move on.

DEAR MARTIN
by Nic Stone
Grades 9 + up

Justyce McAllister is a good kid, an honor student, and always there to help a friend—but none of that matters to the police officer who just put him in handcuffs. Despite leaving his rough neighborhood behind, he can't escape the scorn of his former peers or the ridicule of his new classmates. Justyce looks to the teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. for answers. But do they hold up anymore?

TYLER JOHNSON WAS HERE
by Jay Coles
Grades 9 + up

When Marvin Johnson's twin, Tyler, goes to a party, Marvin decides to tag along to keep an eye on his brother. But what starts as harmless fun turns into a shooting, followed by a police raid. The next day Tyler is missing, and it's up to Marvin to find him. But when Tyler is found dead, a video leaked online tells an even more chilling story: Tyler has been shot and killed by a police officer.
THE DAY TAJON
GOT SHOT

by the Teen Writers of Beacon House: T'Asia, J'Yona, Reiyanna, Jonae, Makiya, Rose, Najae, Serenity, Jeanet, and Temil
Grades 9 + up

Tajon is sixteen and black. He's tall and skinny, and he has dreadlocks. Tajon works hard and tries his best to be good. He does O.K. in school. He has plans. He's determined. Tajon is the kind of son who cares about his family. He's the kind of brother who stands up for his sister. He's the kind of kid who dreams big dreams to get himself and those he loves up and out of the hood. Tajon is the one who got shot.

MINUTEMAN

THIS SIDE OF HOME

by Renée Watson
Grades 9 + up

Maya Younger and her identical twin sister, Nikki, have always agreed on the important things. Friends. Boys. School. They even plan to attend the same historically Black college. But as they head into their senior year, they react differently to the gentrification of their Portland, Oregon, neighborhood and the new -- white -- family that moves in after their best friend and her mother are evicted.

MINUTEMAN OVERDRIVE BOOK

PEOPLE KILL PEOPLE

by Ellen Hopkins
Grades 10 + up

A gun is sold in the classifieds. It is bought by a teenager for protection. Several people have the incentive to pick up a gun, to fire it. Was it Rand or Cami, married teenagers with a young son? Was it Silas or Ashlyn, members of a white supremacist youth organization? Daniel, who fears retaliation because of his race, who possessively clings to Grace, the love of his life? Or Noelle, who lost everything after a devastating accident, and has sunk quietly into depression? Someone will fire. And someone will die. But who?

MINUTEMAN OVERDRIVE BOOK
WE RISE, WE RESIST, WE RAISE OUR VOICES

*edited by Wade Hudson and Cheryl Willis Hudson*  
*Grades 3-7*

What do we tell our children when the world seems bleak, and prejudice and racism run rampant? With 96 lavishly designed pages of original art, poetry, and prose, fifty diverse creators lend voice and comfort to young activists.

BLACK WOMEN WHO DARED

*by Naomi M. Moyer*  
*Grades 4-8*

Beautiful, colorful illustrations tell the inspirational stories of ten black women and women's collectives from 1793 to the present. The stories and art celebrate these remarkable women who are not necessarily well known or recognized, but have had profound impacts on transnational (mostly Canadian) black history.

PEOPLE WHO SAID NO: COURAGE AGAINST OPPRESSION

*by Laura Scandiffio*  
*Grades 5-8*

Seven profiles of people (Rosa Parks, Andrei Sakharov, Sophie and Hans Scholl, and more) who spoke out against oppression and injustice. Each one highlights a particular period, including the Nazi and apartheid eras.
NEVER AGAIN: THE PARKLAND SHOOTING AND THE TEEN ACTIVISTS LEADING A MOVEMENT
by Eric Braun
Grades 5-9
This biography of a movement and the teen activists behind it delves into the quest for gun safety legislation in light of the tragic shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

TWELVE DAYS IN MAY: FREEDOM RIDE 1961
by Larry Dane Brimner
Grades 5 + up
For twelve history-making days in May 1961, thirteen black and white civil rights activists, also known as the Freedom Riders, traveled by bus into the South to draw attention to the unconstitutional segregation still taking place. Despite their peaceful protests, the Freedom Riders were met with increasing violence the further south they traveled.

TEENAGE REBELS: SUCCESSFUL HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVISTS FROM THE LITTLE ROCK 9 TO THE CLASS OF TOMORROW
by Dawson Barrett
Grades 5 + up
A collection of 72 stories from American history that demonstrates the impact teens have been able to make when they believe in a cause. Read about the defiance and activism of teens who are often overlooked in history books, from 16-year-old Sybil Ludington's midnight ride warning the countryside of a British attack in 1777 to the 2014 counter-demonstration organized by high school students in response to a hate group's presence outside their school.
**AMAZONS, ABOLITIONISTS, AND ACTIVISTS: A GRAPHIC HISTORY OF WOMEN’S FIGHT FOR THEIR RIGHTS**

*by Mikki Kendall and A. D'Amico*

*Grades 6 + up*

A bold and gripping graphic history of the fight for women’s rights. The ongoing struggle for women's rights has spanned human history, touched nearly every culture on Earth, and encompassed a wide range of issues, such as the right to vote, work, get an education, own property, exercise bodily autonomy, and beyond.

**THE FREEDOM SUMMER MURDERS**

*by Don Mitchell*

*Grades 6-9*

Coinciding with the fiftieth anniversary of the Freedom Summer murders, it traces the events surrounding the KKK lynching of three young civil rights activists who were trying to register African Americans for the vote.

**YOU ARE MIGHTY: A GUIDE TO CHANGING THE WORLD**

*by Caroline Paul*

*Grades 6 + up*

Being a good citizen means standing up for what's right -- and here's just the way to start. So make a sign, write a letter, volunteer, sit-in, or march! There are lots of tactics to choose from, and you're never too young to change the world.
CLAUDETTE COLVIN: TWICE TOWARD JUSTICE
by Phillip Hoose
Grades 7-10
Teenager Claudette Colvin refused to give up her seat on a Birmingham bus nine months before Rosa Parks gained fame for the same act. Colvin, however, did not become famous. Instead, she was ridiculed and despised by both white and black communities, ending up poor and largely forgotten. In extensive interviews, Hoose broadens the connection between readers and Colvin, her difficult decisions, and the turbulent times in which she lived.

SAY HER NAME
by Zetta Elliott
Grades 7 + up
Inspired by the #SayHerName campaign launched by the African American Policy Forum, these poems pay tribute to victims of police brutality as well as the activists insisting that Black Lives Matter. Elliott engages poets from the past two centuries to create a chorus of voices celebrating the creativity, resilience, and courage of Black women and girls.

SHE TAKES A STAND: 16 FEARLESS ACTIVISTS WHO HAVE CHANGED THE WORLD
by Michael Elsohn Ross
Grades 7-10
The latest in this series profiles 16 women from across the globe who have fought for human rights. Suffering personal injury, imprisonment, and a multitude of hardships, these women never gave up their goals.
GIRLS RESIST!: A GUIDE TO ACTIVISM, LEADERSHIP, AND STARTING A REVOLUTION
by KaeLyn Rich
Grades 7 + up
An activism handbook for teen girls ready to fight for change, social justice, and equality. Take on the world and make some serious change with this handbook for activism, social justice, and resistance. With in-depth guides to everything from picking a cause, planning a protest, and raising money to running dispute-free meetings, promoting awareness on social media, and being an effective ally. Get this handbook to crush inequality, start a revolution, and resist!

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DOUBLE VICTORY: HOW AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN BROKE RACE & GENDER BARRIERS TO HELP WIN WORLD WAR II
by Cheryl Mullenbach
Grades 7 + up
An account of the lesser-known contributions of African-American women during World War II reveals how they helped lay the foundations for the Civil Rights Movement by challenging racial and gender barriers at home and abroad.

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STAMPED: RACISM, ANTI-RACISM, AND YOU
by Jason Reynolds
Grades 7 + up
A history of racist and antiracist ideas in America, from their roots in Europe until today. A reimagining and adaptation of the National Book Award winner Stamped from the Beginning, by Dr. Ibram X. Kendi, and featuring an introduction by Dr. Kendi.

MINUTEMAN  OVERDRIVE BOOK  OVERDRIVE AUDIO
THIS BOOK IS ANTI-RACIST:
20 LESSONS ON HOW TO WAKE UP, TAKE ACTION, AND DO THE WORK

by Tiffany Jewell and Aurelia Durand
Grades 7 + up

This book is written for the young person who doesn't know how to speak up to the racist adults in their life. It's for all of the Black and Brown children who have been harmed (physically and emotionally) because no one stood up for them or they couldn't stand up for themselves. It is written so children and young adults will feel empowered to stand up to the adults who continue to close doors in their faces. This book will give them the language and ability to understand racism and a drive to undo it. In short, it is for everyone.

WHAT ARE MY RIGHTS?:
Q&A ABOUT TEENS AND THE LAW

by Tom A. Jacobs, J.D.
Grades 7 + up

Accessible, straightforward answers to more than 100 questions about teens' legal rights and responsibilities. Using a "just the facts" tone, and drawing on examples from real-life court cases involving young people, Judge Tom Jacobs explains to teens what their rights are. Readers learn about the laws that affect them, appreciate their rights, and consider their responsibilities.

SPEAK A WORD FOR FREEDOM:
WOMEN AGAINST SLAVERY

by Kekla Magoon
Grade 7 + up

From the early days of the antislavery movement, when political action by women was frowned upon, British and American women were tireless and uncompromising campaigners. Without their efforts, emancipation would have taken much longer. This book tells the story of 14 of today's women who fight against human trafficking and child slavery.
FROM #BLACKLIVESMATTER TO BLACK LIBERATION

by Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor
Grades 8 + up

Activist and scholar Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor surveys the historical and contemporary ravages of racism and persistence of structural inequality such as mass incarceration and Black unemployment. In this context, she argues that this new struggle against police violence holds the potential to reignite a broader push for Black liberation.

MINUTEMAN  OVERDRIVE BOOK

THE BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT

by Peggy J. Parks
Grades 8 + up

This book explores the Black Lives Matter movement that was launched in 2013 to address civil rights issues against African American citizens, and its appeal for equality and fair treatment of Black citizens by law enforcement and by society as a whole. It covers the divide between Black citizens and the police, the formation of the movement, its detractors, law enforcement accountability, and improving policing and strengthening relationships.

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HOW I RESIST: ACTIVISM AND HOPE FOR A NEW GENERATION

ed. by Maureen Johnson
Grades 9 + up

In How I Resist, readers will find hope and support through voices that are at turns personal, funny, irreverent, and instructive. Not just for a young adult audience, this incredibly impactful collection will appeal to readers of all ages who are feeling adrift and looking for guidance.

MINUTEMAN  OVERDRIVE BOOK  OVERDRIVE AUDIO
NEVERTHELESS, WE PERSISTED:
48 VOICES OF DEFIANCE, STRENGTH, AND COURAGE
by 48 contributors
Grades 9 + up

A powerful collection of essays from actors, activists, athletes, politicians, musicians, writers, and teens, each writing about a time in their youth when they were held back because of their race, gender, or sexual identity--but persisted.

WHEN WE FIGHT, WE WIN:
21ST-CENTURY SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND THE ACTIVISTS THAT ARE TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD
by Greg Jobin-Leeds
Grades 9 + up

Same-sex marriage, #BlackLivesMatter, the Dream Act, the People's Climate March, End the New Jim Crow, Occupy Wall Street--these are just a few of the initiatives that have taken flight in the past decade, the most fertile and productive era of activism and reform this country has seen since the 1960s.

THE FIRE THIS TIME:
A NEW GENERATION SPEAKS ABOUT RACE
edited by Jesmyn Ward
Grades 9 + up

In this timely collection of essays and poems, Ward (Men We Reaped) gathers the voices of a new generation whose essays work together as one to present a kaleidoscopic performance of race in America.
GOOD TROUBLE: LESSONS FROM THE CIVIL RIGHTS PLAYBOOK
*by Christopher Noxon*
*Grades 9 + up*

In words and vivid pen-and-watercolor illustrations, journalist Christopher Noxon dives into the real stories behind the front lines of the Montgomery bus boycott and the Greensboro lunch counter sit-ins and notable figures such as Rosa Parks and Bayard Rustin, all while exploring the parallels between the civil rights movement era and the present moment.

MARCH
*by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin*
*Art by Nate Powell*
*Grades 9 + up*

This graphic novel trilogy is a first-hand account of Congressman John Lewis’ lifelong struggle for civil and human rights, meditating in the modern age on the distance traveled since the days of Jim Crow and segregation.

RAD AMERICAN HISTORY A-Z: MOVEMENTS & MOMENTS THAT DEMONSTRATE THE POWER OF PEOPLE
*by Kate Schatz and Miriam Klein Stahl*
*Grades 9 + up*

From the New York Times bestselling team behind Rad American Women A-Z comes an illustrated collection of radical and transformative political, social, and cultural movements in American history.
**STEAL THIS COUNTRY: A HANDBOOK FOR RESISTANCE, PERSISTENCE, AND FIXING ALMOST ANYTHING**

*by Alexandra Styron*  
*Grades 9 + up*

Essays, profiles, and interviews about issues in social and political action, including climate change, immigration, gender and sexual orientation, racism, women’s rights, religious freedom, and intersectionality.

**TELL ME WHO YOU ARE: SHARING YOUR STORIES OF RACE, CULTURE, AND IDENTITY**

*by Winona Guo and Priya Vulchi*  
*Grades 9 + up*

In this deeply inspiring book, Winona Guo and Priya Vulchi recount their experiences talking to people about race and identity on a cross-country tour of the United States.

**WHEN THEY CALL YOU A TERRORIST:**  
*A BLACK LIVES MATTER MEMOIR*  

*by Patrisse Khan-Cullors and Asha Bandele*  
*Grades 10 + up*

A memoir by the co-founder of the Black Lives Matter movement explains the movement’s position of love, humanity, and justice, challenging perspectives that have negatively labeled the movement’s activists while calling for essential political changes.
BLACK LIVES MATTER
*by* Sue Bradford Edwards and Duchess Harris
*Grades 10 + up*

Black Lives Matter covers the shootings that touched off passionate protests, the work of activists to bring about a more just legal system, and the tensions in US society that these events have brought to light.

RESIST!
HOW TO BE AN ACTIVIST IN THE AGE OF DEFIANCE
*by* Michael Segalov
*Grades 10 + up*

*Resist!* is the indispensable how-to guide for people looking to make a stand. Included are solid pieces of advice, practical tips and inspirational stories from those who have already successfully stood up and made a difference.

THE TRUTHS WE HOLD:
AN AMERICAN JOURNEY
*by* Kamala Harris
*Grades 10 + up*

From one of America's most inspiring political leaders, a book about the core truths that unite us, and the long struggle to discern what those truths are and how best to act upon them, in her own life and across the life of our country.
SO YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT RACE

by Ijeoma Oluo
Grades 10 + up

A current, constructive, and actionable exploration of today's racial landscape, offering straightforward clarity that readers of all races need to contribute to the dismantling of the racial divide. Editor at Large of The Establishment, Oluo offers a contemporary, accessible take on the racial landscape in America, addressing head-on such issues as privilege, police brutality, intersectionality, micro-aggressions, the Black Lives Matter movement, and the "N" word.

STUDENTS FOR A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY: A GRAPHIC HISTORY

by Harvey Pekar, art by Gary Dumm
Grades 10 + up

Among the organizations agitating for social change in the 1960s, Students for a Democratic Society concentrated its efforts on young people. This graphic history uses black-and-white art to effectively document the group's history, from its founding to its split and eventual end.

PANIC ATTACK: YOUNG RADICALS IN THE AGE OF TRUMP

by Robby Soave
Grades 10 + up

Since the 2016 election, college campuses have erupted in violent protests, demands for safe spaces, and the silencing of views that activist groups find disagreeable. Who are the leaders behind these protests, and what do they want? In Panic Attack, libertarian journalist Robby Soave answers these questions by profiling young radicals from across the political spectrum.