

<p>My name is Linda Blasnik. I am a librarian at the Tycher Library in Dallas, Texas. I am here today to teach how to use Children's books to Treat People Equally. I am fortunate to read weekly to children at my shul which is where this idea began.</p>
<p>Children's books feature pictures that begin to tell a story. Let's see how picture books featuring children teach different ways to treat people equally.</p>
<p>Children know that kindness stops bullying. In the picture, we see the girl extending a hand to Vanessa, the new girl at school who was bullied.</p>
<p>Children make friends easily. Brian reaches out to Justin, the new boy at school and, working together on a school project, Justin helps Brian to shine.</p>
<p>By learning the Golden Rule which has many variations in different cultures, children can learn to treat others the way they want to be treated. Here, the boy learns the Golden Rule from his grandfather.</p>
<p>Children can fight for what is right. Clara's bravery keeps her fighting for workers' rights. Clara persists in her quest for equal treatment.</p>
<p>It is thirty years after the installation of the Statue of Liberty in 1883. A new generation of children learned to welcome immigrants by reciting Emma Lazarus' poem.</p>
<p>Like Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, shown as a child in this picture, children learn to make their own paths for others to follow. They can learn to make change happen.</p>
<p>Children can be color-blind. Difference in skin color doesn't keep them from being best friends. These boys are on their way to shul with their fathers.</p>
<p>Children can right wrongs. In the town of Billings, Montana, children found a way to fight hate crimes. This story is true and the crime was solved by the town's children.</p>
<p>Young Abraham Joshua Heschel believed his father's words - "We are all G-d's Children. You are as good as anybody." Heschel marched with Martin Luther King, Jr. as an adult by internalizing his father's message.</p>
<p>At age 13, Martin Luther King, Jr. won a speech competition talking about black and white children playing in harmony. He would repeat this message throughout his life.</p>
<p>At age 13, Anne Frank got a diary for her birthday. Even with all the hate around her, she believed people were good at heart. Her diary inspired others long after she shared her words.</p>
<p>As a child, Golda Meir raised money for books for her classmates by meeting with the American Young Sisters society. These young Jewish immigrants from Russia made a difference in their classmates' lives and learning.</p>
<p>In this Shanghai sukkah, Marcus' friend, Liang decorates with red paper lanterns - and friendship. This unique sukkah is featured in Heidi Smith Hyde's book, Shanghai Sukkah which explores the themes of strangers in a new land.</p>
<p>Young Booker T. Washington became an educator of freed men by holding on to his dream of the power of literacy, work ethic and education for all. Washington's schools gave many opportunity for growth and learning.</p>
<p>See samples of children's ideas for kindness, put together into a kindness quilt. Nancy Elizabeth Wallace's story shows how children dream up ways to be kind.</p>

A first grade boy helps a friend who skinned his knee. Like adults, children learn empathy from books and people.

Two hospital roommates with different illnesses find friendship by appreciating differences and learning to live without prejudice.

Thank you all for coming to my presentation. Thank you as well to my friend and co-librarian Jessica Fink for her book suggestions and to my husband, Steve for supporting me on my library journey.