

Finding Diverse Books for Kids 2021

GRADES 6-8



Allen, Sarah

What Stars Are Made Of

Twelve-year-old Libby, born with Turner Syndrome, is determined to win a science contest and use the money to help her older sister's growing family, while surviving middle school.

Disability



Aster, Alex

The Curse of the Night Witch

After changing the fate he has known since birth, twelve-year-old Tor Luna, accompanied by his friends Engle and Melda, must visit the notorious Night Witch to break the curse he now faces.

Race & Ethnicity: Latinx



Callender, Kacen

King and the Dragonflies

Grief over the recent death of his older brother and his struggles with coming out collide when Kingston's former friend goes missing from their Louisiana town.

Gender Identity & Sexuality



Cisneros, Ernesto

Efrén, Divided

While his father works two jobs, seventh-grader Efrén Nava must take care of his twin siblings, kindergartners Max and Mia, after their mother is deported to Mexico.

Citizenship Status



Faruqi, Sadia and Laura Shovan

A Place At the Table

Sixth-graders Sara, a Pakistani American, and Elizabeth, a Jewish girl, connect in an after school cooking club and bond over food and their mothers' struggles to become United States citizens.

Religion: Muslim



Jung, Mike

The Boys In the Back Row

Best friends Matt and Eric plan a final adventure together before Eric moves away: during a marching band competition, they will sneak away to a nearby comic convention and meet their idol, a famous comic creator.

Race & Ethnicity: Asian/Pacific Islander

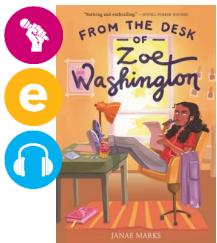


Kapit, Sarah

Get a Grip, Vivy Cohen!

Eleven-year-old knuckleball pitcher Vivy Cohen, who has autism, becomes pen pals with her favorite Major League baseball player after writing a letter to him as an assignment for her social skills class.

Religion: Jewish



Marks, Janae

From the Desk of Zoe Washington

Avid baker Zoe Washington receives a letter on her twelfth birthday from her biological father, who is in prison for a terrible crime, and sets out to prove his innocence.

Race & Ethnicity: Black



Roanhorse, Rebecca

Race to the Sun

Guided by her Navajo ancestors, seventh-grader Nizhoni Begay discovers she is descended from a holy woman and destined to become a monsterslayer, starting with the evil businessman who kidnapped her father.

Race & Ethnicity: American Indian



Smith, Ronald

Gloom Town

Twelve-year-old Rory and his friend Izzy try to foil the plans of Lord Foxglove, for whom Rory works as a valet, and his inhuman accomplices from taking over the world.

Income Inequality



Vourvoulias, Sabrina

Nuestra América

Celebrates 30 influential Latinx leaders, athletes, and artists throughout history and their incredible contributions to the cultural, social, and political character of the United States.

Language (Spanish)



Zaczek, Alyssa

Martin McLean, Middle School Queen

Seventh-grader Martin McLean has trouble expressing himself except at Mathletes competitions and, now, as a female impersonator but his first-ever drag show falls on the same night as an important Mathletes tournament.

Intersectionality



#ownvoices
author



e-book
available



audiobook
available



graphic
novel



Oregon author
or setting



Spanish
available