

Annotated Bibliography

Brown, D. (2015). *Who is Malala Yousafzai?* (A. Thomson, Illus.). Penguin Random House.

Part of the popular ‘Who is’ series, this book follows Malala’s journey from the time she was born to current day (at the time, 2015) in a narrative nonfiction format. This book serves as a great ‘beginner’ nonfiction selection including important text features such as a bibliography, table of contents and map while also incorporating illustrations throughout the text. *Who is Malala Yousafzai?* has 10 chapters with just over 100 pages. As a teacher in 3rd grade, I am a fan of the ‘Who is’ series for many reasons. One of the most important reasons being that this series helps young students to fully digest and understand the nonfiction genre. Exploring important topics like oppression, gender roles and diversity, this book explores several important themes. I would recommend this book for students as they begin to explore the nonfiction genre, specifically grades 2nd through 4th grade. As a teacher, I find this book helpful to implement as a mentor text.

Camerini, V. (2019). *Greta’s Story: The Schoolgirl Who Went on Strike to Save the Planet* (V. Carratello, Illus.). Simon & Schuster, Children’s UK.

A more traditional biography, this chapter book follows the way that Greta Thunberg, environmental activist, made a difference in Sweden’s climate change agenda. This chapter book is 123 pages long and has 9 chapters. At the end of the book, a timeline, glossary, call to action and information on global warming is included. Sprinkled throughout this book several illustrations are provided that accompany the text. As more children are interested in being the change for their future, this biography comes in a timely manner to help act as a guide. Additionally, this book explores important themes including power, challenge what childhood should include and strength. While this book has not won any awards, I see it being a good fit

and recommend it for upper elementary to middle school aged readers that are more interested in learning about Greta Thunberg.

Cherry-Paul, S., Reynolds, and J., Kendi, I., (2021). *Stamped (For Kids)*. (R. Baker, Illus.).

Little, Brown and Company.

This book, adapted from Kendi's *Stamped From the Beginning*, provides youth with a brief history of racism. An early self-proclamation that the book is not a history book does follow the beginning of racism through present day (2021) experiences. *Stamped, For Kids* addresses its readers in a conversational tone to help explain the difficult conversation of racial tension throughout history. This book includes 24 short chapters, reaching a total of 137 pages. With remarks from the New York Times and Jacqueline Woodson, this book has followed in the footsteps of its adult versions' literary merits. Other than the reviews and mentions it has received, *Stamped, For Kids* is an important piece of literature for many reasons including its accessibility and easy-to-digest writing. I would recommend this 'not-history' book to anyone that wants to better understand the history of racism and how it has morphed from the year 1415 to present day. Important themes are discussed including power and hearing from traditionally unheard voices. Though this material is important for people of all ages, this book is most suited for upper elementary aged students.

Harrison, V. (2017). *Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History* (V. Harrison, Illus.). Hachette

Book Group Inc.

This book shares the biographies of 40 'bold women in black history'. With each page sharing a short biography of a prominent black woman and a beautiful illustration, the reader gets to learn why each woman is featured with a brief description of their life. The biographies range from Ruby Bridges to Oprah Winfrey and Rosa Parks to Raven Wilkinson. This beautiful

collection of leaders is a New York Times bestselling book. Offering further resources to read, listen to and watch this book is a good fit for anyone that wants to learn more about important women in history. It is also important to note that learning about each of these women helps illuminate incredible people doing incredible things. These short biographies help to keep the younger reader engaged in a nonfiction text and helps keep an older reader interested to do further research if they choose to do so.

Maillard, K. N. (2019). *Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story* (J. Martinez-Neal, Illus.).
Roaring Book Press.

This picture book shares the important story of fry bread in a narrative nonfiction way. Following the way that fry bread unifies the Native American family, the reader is confronted with fry bread as shape, sound, food, flavor and history. Each new page brings a striking illustration, fry bread described with a comparison and a story to share and understand the comparison. At the end of the book there is a recipe for the reader to make their own fry bread as well as an important author's note. This book won the Robert F. Siebert medal in 2020 which honors 'the most distinguished informational book published in English'. I recommend this book for anyone that is more interested in learning about an important Native American tradition. Personally, my class and I read this book to gain better insight and understanding of Native Americans during Native American Heritage month.