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What are Race and Racism?

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Book Review

What are Race and Racism?



Author

Sue Bradford Edwards

Illustrator

Reviewer

Bailey Ondricek

Rating

Outstanding

Level

Intermediate, Young
Adult

Pages

112

Year

2018

Publisher

Essential Library

ISBN

9780316390965

What are Race and Racism? is a perfect introduction to historical and modern racial oppression for the young reader. This thin chapter book begins by citing a modern issue of racism, looking back on the history of racism and describing its evolution over time, and then revisiting modern problems and solutions. The sensible flow of the book provides a great overview for those who may not understand the concepts of microaggressions, the Black Lives Matter movement, or other hot topic issues.

This is an exceptional nonfiction text for intermediate readers. The structure of the book is easy to follow, the images are vibrant and emotional, the pages are colorful and interesting, and the text features make the book very accessible. A young reader trying to better understand contemporary issues would easily be able to access necessary information to have an informed discussion concerning Black Lives Matter, historical racism, and modern microaggressions. This book would make a fabulous addition to any classroom library and is well-used in teaching young children how to appropriately discuss issues surrounding race.