



# BOOKS and MORE BOOKS

A Service Learning Bookshelf by Cathryn Berger Kaye, M.A.

## Activism

***Kid Activists: True Tales of Childhood from Champions of Change***, Stories by Robin Stevenson, Illustrations by Allison Steinfeld, Quirk Books, 2019

What were Susan B. Anthony, James Baldwin, Iqbal Masih, and Autumn Peletier like as children? Inspiring profiles that connect us all.

***Lifting as We Climb: Black Women's Battle for the Ballot Box*** by Evette Dionne, Viking, 2020.

Correcting our history books requires us to know more complete stories. In this book we learn that the suffrage movement in America was not only about white women – “women of color, especially African American women, fought hard for their right to vote and to be treated as full, equal citizens.” This book “draws an important historical line from abolition to suffrage to civil rights to contemporary young activists.”

***Stand Up! Speak Up! A story inspired by the Climate Change Revolution*** by Andrew Joyner, Schwartz & Wade Books, NY, 2020

Wake up. Dress up. Drink up. Eat up. Meet up. As the book says, *every step counts* and every voice matters. The book includes profiles of 11 young climate activists who are changing the world.

## Environment

***The Big Beach Cleanup*** by Charlotte Offsay, illustrated by Katie Rewse, Albert Whitman and Co., 2021

Cara changes her focus from winning a sandcastle-building contest to initiating a clean up of her favorite beach littered with trash. Her perseverance and clarity of what needs to happen to keep trash from coming back is inspiring! Great tips!

***How to Change Everything – The Young Humans Guide to Protecting the Planet and Each Other*** by Naomi Klein with Rebecca Steffoff, Atheneum Books, 2021

This comprehensive book includes where we are, how we got here, and what happens next. While this focuses on the environment, the afterword addresses “Learning from the Coronavirus Pandemic” as well as an intriguing chapter – “A Natural Solution to the Climate Disaster.”

***Join the No-Plastic Challenge! A First Book of Reducing Waste***, by Scot Ritchie, Kids Can Press, 2019.

This “first book” covers a wide magnitude of information about plastics – including “How Plastic is Your Home?”, “The Last Straw,” “Leaving Things Better,” and so much more. For ALL ages!

***Oceans for Dummies*** by Ashlan and Philippe Cousteau, For Dummies, 2021

Dive into learn everything there is to know about the oceans with the experts! Fun facts, photos, essential information, and ways to protect our planet and water sources wherever you are!

## Immigration

***Drawn Across Borders—True Stories of Human Migrations***, by George Butler, Candlewick Studio, 2021.

George Butler is a watercolor artist who specializes in current affairs – and whose travels takes him to war torn areas and refugee camps. This book follows our current crises of people displaced, and migration that is, for the most part, not voluntary. The stories and the artwork make this book revealing and a meditation on our shared humanity and a call for action. More for older youth and adults.

***Open Borders, the Science and Ethics of Immigration***, by Bryan Caplan and artwork by Zach Weinersmith, First Second, 2019.

A graphic novel (written by a professor of economics) that lays out the economic rationale for an open border approach to immigration, told with “careful scholarship, infectious optimism, and vibrant illustrations.”

***Watercress*** by Andrea Wang, pictures by Jason Chin, Neal Porter Books, 2021.

Collecting watercress growing along the side of the road causes a young girl to be embarrassed of her family. When the incident leads to her mother sharing a story of her family’s life in China, and the experience of living in a famine. the girl gains a new appreciation for her history and makes a new memory with her family, a new memory of watercress.

## Poetry for the Soul

***A Place Inside of Me – A Poem to Heal the Heart*** by Zetta Elliott, illustrated by Noa Denmom, Farrar Straus Giroux books, 2020.

*there is a place inside of me . . . a space deep down inside of me . . . where all my feelings hide.* A journey through the emotions and vulnerability of a young person seeking pride and to be free. A story for our time when words can inspire, and they can heal.

**Cathryn Berger Kaye, M.A.**, is a book lover. She has been compiling these lists for decades, connecting readers with the critical issues of our times. These are just a sampling of the books available. Please support our wonderful authors and independent books stores whenever possible.

And contact Cathy with books you recommend or to find out about titles that will meet the curiosity and desire of any young (and older) reader. Find Cathy at [cathy@cbkassociates.com](mailto:cathy@cbkassociates.com) or occasionally at Children’s Book World in Los Angeles where she finds the very best books!