

Reviewing Science Picture Books for Justice, Equity & Inclusion

Purpose: This worksheet is designed to help educators identify science picture books that have a strong justice, equity, and inclusion lens.

Instructions: As you review your selected picture book: 1) identify whether each **Component** outlined below is included, or not, in the picture book, 2) use the **Notes** section to keep track of evidence for why you rated the picture book as you did and 3) plan how you will address identified weaknesses as you use the text with students.

Title:

Author(s):

Illustrator(s):

Copyright Date:

Grade Level / Reading Level:

Central Science/Engineering Concept:

NGSS/State Science Standards Alignment:

How might you use this book in your classroom?

How might you address identified weaknesses when you use this text? How might you explicitly name and/or engage students in a discussion of strengths and weaknesses in age-appropriate ways?

Perspective			
Component	Description	Component included? (✓ if 'Yes')	
Author's expertise and background	The author is qualified to write about this subject (from a scientific perspective and/or from an identity group perspective)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure
Illustrator's expertise and background	The illustrator is qualified to write about this subject (from a scientific perspective and/or from an identity group perspective)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure
Authenticity	The book avoids embarrassing, humiliating, or essentializing people from identity groups represented in the book.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure

Illustrations			
Component	Description	Component included? (✓ if 'Yes')	
Diversity of peoples and experiences	Represent a diversity of individuals with distinctive identities in authentic ways	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure
	Represent a diversity of ways of living and being in the world	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure
	Attention has been made to including often 'invisible' members of our communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure
Avoids stereotypes	Avoid stereotypes that are portrayed as applying to all individuals who identify as part of that group	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure
Avoids tokenism	Avoid tokenism or incorporating only 'one' example of a particular identity group	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure
Colorful and recognizable	Illustrations are colorful and images represented are recognizable to children	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure

Storyline			
Component	Description	Component included? (✓ if 'Yes')	
Relationships	Centers people who represent a variety of traditionally minoritized identities as central figures in the storyline	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure
	Avoids portraying characters who represent minoritized identities as gaining acceptance or achievement explicitly through having extraordinary qualities or through changing their identities to adopt 'normal' expectations	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure

Lifestyles	Demonstrates favorable detail about the lifestyles of characters that go beyond oversimplification	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure
Collective actions for change	Includes people from multiple identity groups working together for collective justice	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure
Interesting storyline	Is active and engaging	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure
Age appropriate	Is age appropriate for the target audience	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure
Asset-based words	Words are asset-based and do not include 'loaded words' that demean people or make them invisible because of their identities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure
Bi / Multilingual	Bi/multilingual characters engage in dynamic language practices	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure
Science vocabulary	Avoids relying on readers' understanding of science academic vocabulary	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure
	Incorporates everyday ways of describing scientific topics and is not bogged-down with definitions of science academic terminology	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure
Science as a human endeavor	Demonstrates characters engaged in the messy, non-linear process of science	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure
	Demonstrates characters engaged in non-traditional science activities, using a variety of methods	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure
	Demonstrates characters making revisions in light of new evidence and persisting through frustration/perceived failure	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure
	Includes individuals working within groups to investigate scientific phenomena	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure
Multiple perspectives about science ideas	Includes multiple explanations related to the topic beyond those generally accepted by the scientific community, including for those topics for which there is limited consensus within the scientific community	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsure

Notes about Strengths and Weaknesses: