After Reading: Discussion Questions for Booklist

Questions for the Classroom

- 1. What do you think it would have been like to grow up during the Civil Rights era?
- 2. Many of these titles feature courageous figures or characters, who fought for equal rights and stood up to injustice. How do you think that the figures or characters in your book showed courage?
- 3. In what ways can you relate to the main character of your book? What do you admire about them?
- 4. What is privilege? In what ways can people be privileged? Why does understanding white privilege matter?
- 5. What is bias? What is the difference between explicit and implicit biases? Are there examples of these different biases in the book you read, and if so, what are they? How have you experienced bias in your own life?
- 6. How have protests throughout history affected positive change?
- 7. How do you think this book relates to the protests currently happening?
- 8. How does this book make you feel?
- 9. For nonfiction titles: What did you already know about black history before reading? What was something you learned? How did your thinking change after reading this?

Questions for Home

- 1. Are there any activist groups in our area that we could join? What are some things that we could do to be more active?
- 2. Have you ever witnessed or experienced police brutality / heavy police presence in your neighborhood? How did it make you feel? Did you notice how others reacted in the situation?
- 3. What is anti-racism? How can we be anti-racist in our everyday lives?
- 4. What is self-care? How can we take care of ourselves when we feel stressed or overwhelmed?
- 5. How can we celebrate our differences and make connections with the people around us in meaningful ways?

Additional Resources for Parents and Educators

- <u>Talking About Race</u> Discussion Guide for Parents and Educators, from the National Museum for African American History and Culture
- Tolerance.org