

Early Childhood Guide: Black Lives Matter At School Week of Action

Rationale: The [Week of Action](#) is a national uprising that affirms the lives of Black students, teachers, and families. This week centers classroom lessons about structural racism, intersectional Black identities, Black history, and anti-racism through the [13 Guiding Principles](#) from the Black Lives Matter movement.

How to use the guide

Each day of the Week of Action asks teachers to address two or more of the Black Lives Matter Guiding Principles. To provide guidance, a theme for each day based on the Guiding Principles has been identified, along with age-appropriate wordage, suggested resources, and coloring page(s). The intent is NOT to have ready-made lessons, but to provide a variety of supports so each teacher can create lessons that work for your students.

Additional resources

[BLM Week of Action - Mini-Lessons](#): Provides ideas for quick daily lessons during the Week of Action

[Teacher Resources for Building Background Knowledge](#): Suggested resources and guides

Contributors: Sam Carwyn, Ijumma Jordan, Megan Madison, Kendra Pelo-Joaquin

BLM at Schools Week of Action

Theme	Guiding Principles	Book Ideas	Coloring Pages	Lessons/Activities
<p>Monday: Restorative Justice, Empathy, & Love Engagement</p>	<p>Restorative Justice is the commitment to build a beloved and loving community that is sustainable and growing.</p> <p>Empathy is one’s ability to connect with others by building relationships built on mutual trust and understanding.</p> <p>Loving Engagement is the commitment to practice justice, liberation and peace.</p> <p>Restorative Justice: “We know that if you hurt somebody, you have to help them feel better; you can’t just say, “Sorry,” and walk away. We also know that it’s important for kids to be able to make a better choice another time, and it’s grownups’ job to help them make better choices and to give them chances to do that. Another way to say that is restorative justice.”</p> <p>Empathy: “It’s so important to think about how other people feel because different people have different feelings. Sometimes it helps to think about how you would feel if the same thing that happened to your friend happened to you. Another way to say that is empathy.”</p> <p>Loving Engagement: “It’s so important to make sure that we are always trying to be fair and peaceful, and to engage with other people (treat other people) with love. We have to keep practicing this so that we can get better and better at it. Another way to say that is loving engagement.”</p>	<p>I Am Human: A Book of Empathy by Susan Verde</p> <p>Each Kindness by Jacqueline Woodson</p>	<p align="center">BLM</p>	<p align="center">Make a Feelings Book</p> <p align="center">Apologies of Action</p>

BLM at Schools Week of Action

Theme	Guiding Principles	Book Ideas	Coloring Pages	Lessons/Activities
<p>Tuesday: Diversity & Globalism</p>	<p>Diversity is the celebration and acknowledgment of differences and commonalities across cultures.</p> <p>Globalism is our ability to see how we are impacted or privileged within the Black global family that exists across the world in different regions.</p> <p>Diversity: “Different people do different things and have different feelings. It’s so important that we have lots of different kinds of people to learn from in our community and that everyone feels safe. Another way to say that is diversity.”</p> <p>“Globalism means that Black people live all over the world, in lots of different ways, and we are thinking about ways to keep things fair everywhere.”</p>	<p>Read Africa Week 2018</p> <p>Afro-Latinx Book List</p> <p>Shades of Black by Sandra Pinkney</p> <p>It’s OK to be Different by Todd Parr</p>	<p>Three Globalism</p>	<p>Audit your classroom library or review the Scholastic Catalog</p>

BLM at Schools Week of Action

Theme	Guiding Principles	Book Ideas	Coloring Pages	Lessons/Activities
<p>Wednesday: Transgender , Queer Affirming, & Collective Value</p>	<p>Transgender Affirming is the commitment to continue to make space for our trans siblings by encouraging leadership and recognizing trans-antagonistic violence while doing the work required to dismantle cisgender privilege and uplift Black trans folk.</p> <p>Queer Affirming is working towards a queer-affirming network where heteronormative thinking no longer exists.</p> <p>Collective Value means that all Black lives, regardless of actual or perceived sexual identity, gender identity, gender expression, economic status, ability, disability, religious beliefs or disbeliefs, immigration status or location, matter.</p> <p>Transgender Affirming: “Everybody has the right to choose their own gender by listening to their own heart and mind. Everyone gets to choose if they are a girl or a boy or both or neither or something else, and no one else gets to choose for them.”</p> <p>Queer Affirming: “Everybody has the right to choose who they love and the kind of family they want by listening to their own heart and mind.”</p> <p>Collective Value: “Everybody is important and has the right to be safe and happy, no matter what they believe, where they are from, or who they love. Another way to say that is collective value.”</p>	<p>Julian Is a Mermaid by Jessica Love</p> <p>Large Fears by Myles E Johnson</p> <p>Oliver Button is a Sissy by Tomie DePaola</p> <p>Red. A Crayon’s Story</p> <p>It Feels Good To Be Yourself: A Book About Gender Identity by Theresa Thorn</p>	<p align="center"><u>Three</u></p>	<p><u>T-Chart of Gender Stereotypes</u></p>

BLM at Schools Week of Action

Theme	Guiding Principles	Guiding Questions	Book Idea	Coloring Pages	Lesson/Activities
<p>Thursday: Intergenerational, Black Families, & Black Villages</p>	<p>Intergenerational is a space free from ageism where we can learn from each other. “It’s important that we have spaces where people of different ages can come together and learn from each other. Another way to say that is intergenerational.”</p> <p>Black Families creates a space that is family-friendly and free from patriarchal practices. “There are lots of different kinds of families; what makes a family is that it’s people who take care of each other. It’s important to make sure that all families feel welcome.”</p> <p>Black Villages is the disruption of Western nuclear family dynamics and a return to the “collective village” that takes care of each other. “There are lots of different kinds of families; what makes a family is that it’s people who take care of each other; those people might be related, or maybe they choose to be family together and to take care of each other. Sometimes, when it’s lots of families together, it can be called a village.”</p>		<p>Play Lady/La Senora Juguetona by Eric Hoffman</p> <p>Love Makes A Family by Sophie Beer</p> <p>Visiting Day by Jaqueline Woodson</p>	<p align="center">Two</p>	<p>Jump Rope with Children</p> <p>What is a Family?</p>

BLM at Schools Week of Action

Theme	Guiding Principles	Book Idea	Coloring Page	Lesson
<p>Friday: Unapologetically Black & Centering Black Women</p>	<p>Black Women is the building of women-centered spaces free from sexism, misogyny, and male-centeredness. “There are some people who think that women are less important than men. We know that all people are important and have the right to be safe and talk about their own feelings.”</p> <p>Unapologetically Black is the affirmation that Black Lives Matter and that our love, and desire for justice and freedom are prerequisites for wanting that for others. These principles are the blueprint for healing and do not include nor do they support ignoring or sanitizing the ugliness and discomfort that comes with dealing with race and anti-race issues. “There are lots of different kinds of people and one way that we’re different is the color of our skin. It’s important to make sure that all people are treated fairly. This is why we, and lots of other people all over the country and the world, are part of the Black Lives Matter Movement.”</p>	<p>Mufaro’s Beautiful Daughters by John Steptoe</p> <p>Black All Around! By Patricia Hubbell</p>	<p align="center">Five</p> <p align="center">Love Yourself</p>	<p>Hey Black Child by Maya Angelou</p> <p>Father/Daughter Affirmations Video</p> <p>I Love Myself Affirmation chant</p>

Sample Weekly Lesson Plan

Theme: Black Lives Matter					
Week of: February 5th-9th, 2018		Learning Objectives: [tie to Teaching Tolerance social justice standards]			
Teacher/Classroom:					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Guiding Principle (link to kid-friendly language)	<i>Restorative Justice, Empathy, and Loving Engagement</i>	<i>Diversity and Globalism</i>	<i>Trans-affirming, Queer Affirming Collective Value</i>	<i>Intergenerational, Black Families, and Black Villages</i>	<i>Centering Black Women and Femmes, Unapologetically Black</i>
Circle Time (Large Group)	What is justice? Role Play: Apologies of Action	What are some ways we're similar and different?	T-Chart of Gender Stereotypes	What is a family?	Guest Speaker from local Black Lives Matter chapter
Morning Activities (Small Group)	Taking pictures for our Classroom Feelings Book	Writing labels for our classroom museum	Writing questions for our guest speaker	Making family portraits	Making collages using the color Black
Centers (Interest Areas)	Making our own museum		Mix-it up day! Today we're all going to play in a center where we don't usually play!	Playing with Family Builders	Museum Tours (how many tickets did we sell to our museum?)
Read-Aloud IT = Infant/Toddler PK = Preschool	IT: More, More, More said the Baby by Vera Williams PK: Milo's Museum by Zetta Elliott	IT: Shades of Black by Sandra Pinkney PK: Draw! by Raul Colon	IT: Counting on Community by Innosanto Nagara PK: Who are You? by Brook Pessin-Whedbee	IT/PK: So Much! By Trish Cooke	IT: Pretty Brown Face by Andrea Davis Pinkney PK: Black All Around by Patricia Hubbell
Music/Movement	Hello by Ella Jenkins, Daily affirmations				
Gross Motor	Jump Rope				
Family Engagement	Bring in something for our classroom museum. Families are welcome to join us on Friday to tour our classroom museum.				

