Read across America

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Celebrating A Nation Of Diverse Readers

Launched in 1998 by the National Education Association (NEA) and guided by a committee of educators, NEA's Read Across America is the nation's largest celebration of reading. This year-round program focuses on motivating children and teens to read through events, partnerships, and reading resources that are about everyone, for everyone.

The titles and resources featured by NEA's Read Across America include books that students can see themselves reflected in, as well as books that allow readers to see a world or a character that might be different than them.

Readers who feel included, recognized, and a part of the world are engaged readers. We hope that you'll be able to share these recommended titles—and many others—to celebrate Read Across America in March and throughout the year.

https://www.nea.org/resource-library/read-across-america-frequently-asked-questions

THE UNDAUNTED FOUNDATION

The world—and books—are filled with many different kinds of people.

Getting to know them is interesting, exciting, and fun!

https://www.nea.org/resource-library/read-across-america-frequently-asked-questions

THE UNDAUNTED FOUNDATION

There is room in our community for all readers.

https://www.nea.org/resource-library/read-across-america-frequently-asked-questions

THE UNDAUNTED FOUNDATION

There's a growing need for schools and libraries to include and promote diverse books.

Students need books that provide both *WINDOWS* and *MIRRORS* if we are going to create more readers, writers, and people who feel included and recognized, and who understand that the world is far richer than just their experiences alone.

https://www.nea.org/resource-library/read-across-america-frequently-asked-questions

THE UNDAUNTED FOUNDATION

Read Across America celebrations help motivate kids to read and celebrate the diversity in their community and our country.

https://www.nea.org/resource-library/read-across-america-frequently-asked-questions

THE UNDAUNTED FOUNDATION

It is important to introduce children to books, stories, and resources that reflect their own experiences as well as the experiences of others.

Source: https://www.weareteachers.com/mirrors-and-windows/

THE UNDAUNTED FOUNDATION

Kids need stories that reflect their own experiences as well as the experiences of others.

THE UNDAUNTED FOUNDATION

Reading books that are considered windows into the experiences and lives of others, provides children the opportunity to reflect "I used to think ____, but now I think ____."

Source: https://www.weareteachers.com/mirrors-and-windows/

THE UNDAUNTED FOUNDATION

… a classroom of individual students who feel valued are more able to move forward into the world sharing their gifts.

Source: https://www.weareteachers.com/mirrors-and-windows/

THE UNDAUNTED FOUNDATION

It is important to diversify books and materials so that no matter who is in your classroom, school, community, etc, children get to see a window in to the range of possibilities out in the world.

Source: https://www.weareteachers.com/mirrors-and-windows/

THE UNDAUNTED FOUNDATION

Dr. Rudine Sims Bishop, Professor Emerita of Education at Ohio State University has shared the idea that books and resources can be referred to as *windows* and *mirrors*.

Source: https://www.weareteachers.com/mirrors-and-windows/

THE UNDAUNTED FOUNDATION

Windows:
A book can be a window because it allows students a view into the life or experiences of someone who is different from them.

Students may not be able to relate to the characters or experiences of those in these books, but they are able to gain valuable understanding and empathy for others by reading them.

"Windows help us develop understandings about the wider world."
(Rudine Sims Bishop)

Students cannot truly learn about themselves until they learn about others as well.

Sources: https://www.weareteachers.com/mirrors-and-windows/
https://laneshatabb.com/2020/05/books-as-mirrors-and-windows-as-defined-by-dr-rudine-sims-bishop/

THE UNDAUNTED FOUNDATION

Mirrors:

A book can be a mirror because it allows students to see themselves and their experiences represented in the story or characters.

Students are able to make personal connections to these books.

Students are able to feel seen, represented, valued, and validated after reading a book that is a mirror.

Stories that act as mirrors can help build a student's identity.

When students read books where they see characters like themselves who are valued in the world, they feel a sense of belonging.

Sources: https://www.weareteachers.com/mirrors-and-windows/
https://laneshatabb.com/2020/05/books-as-mirrors-and-windows-as-defined-by-dr-rudine-sims-bishop/

THE UNDAUNTED FOUNDATION

It is important to introduce children to books, stories, and resources that reflect their own experiences as well as the experiences of others.

Dr. Rudine Sims Bishop, Professor Emerita of Education at Ohio State University has shared an idea that books and resources can be referred to as windows and mirrors.

Windows:

A book can be a window because it allows students a view into the life or experiences of someone who is different from them.

Students may not be able to relate to the characters or experiences of those in these books, but they are able to gain valuable understanding and empathy for others by reading them.

Mirrors:

A book can be a mirror because it allows students to see themselves and their experiences represented in the story or characters.

Students are able to make personal connections to these books.

Students are able to feel seen, represented, valued, and validated after reading a book that is a mirror.

Source: https://laneshatabb.com/2020/05/books-as-mirrors-and-windows-as-defined-by-dr-rudine-sims-bishop/

THE UNDAUNTED FOUNDATION