



# READING LIST FOR GLOBAL STUDENTS

## KINDERGARTEN-GRADE 3


### Barefoot Skateboarders

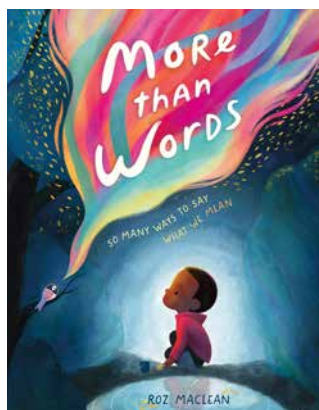
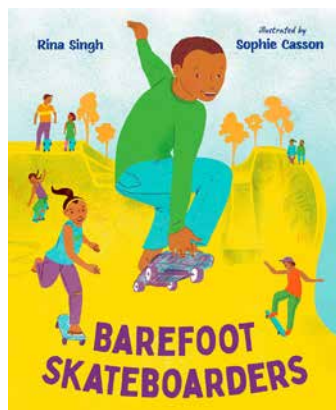
 By Rina Singh & illustrated by Sophie Casson

When the remote village of Janwaar in Northern India builds a skatepark everything changes. All the local kids—including girls!—get hooked on learning new tricks and the freedom of skateboarding. This is a story of transformation, resilience and the power of community. Based on a true story.

### More than Words: So Many Ways to Say What We Mean

 By Roz MacLean


 This beautifully inclusive picture book celebrates our many forms of communication from sign language and writing to facial expressions, art, movement, and assistive technology. Through the story of Nathan, it illustrates that listening goes beyond words and that everyone deserves to be understood.



### We Are Water Protectors

 By Carole Lindstrom & illustrated by Michaela Goode


**Recommended by The Starfish Canada.**

 When a black snake threatens to destroy the Earth and poison her people's water, one young water protector takes a stand to defend Earth's most sacred resource.


Check out the companion book, Autumn Peltier, Water Warrior that tells the inspiring story of Indigenous rights activists and real-life water protectors, Autumn Peltier and her grandmother.



### When We Were Alone

 By David Robertson & illustrated by Julie Flett


**Recommended by the Brokenhead River Regional Library.**

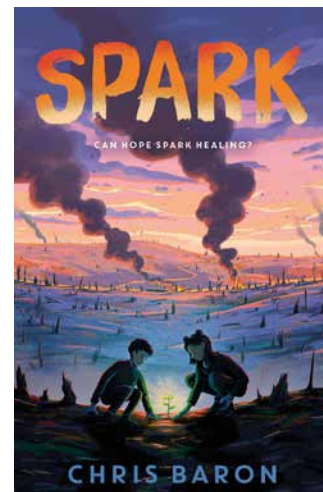
 A young girl notices things about her grandmother that make her curious. Her braided hair, coloured clothing, Cree language, and family culture. The girl's curiosity leads her grandmother to share her experience in a residential school, when all these things were taken away.

## GRADES 4-6

### Little by Little: You Can Change the World


 By Sonya Ballantyne & illustrated by Rhael McGregor

 Michael may be young, but he's got a big heart and a strong sense of justice. He attends a youth conference but gets shocked when the speaker starts spreading falsehoods about his community. Will Michael find the courage to speak up and make a difference?



### Spark

By Chris Baron


 When wildfires ravage their town and beloved woods, Finn and Rabbit don't sit back. Armed with curiosity and hope, they chase the rumoured "forest heart", a hidden patch that holds the secret to healing the land. Can they convince the grown-ups that it's worth saving?


### Today I am: 10 Stories of Belonging

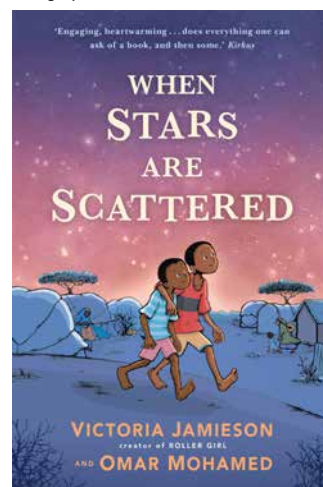
 Curated by Jael Richardson

 Ten BIPOC authors from across Canada deliver a powerful mix of fiction, poetry, and art that explore one big question: what does "home" really mean? From awkward dinners to big moves and life on the rez, every tale is packed with heart, humor, and truth.

### When Stars Are Scattered

 By Victoria Jamieson & Omar Mohamed, illustrated by Victoria Jamieson & Iman Geddy

 Omar and his younger brother live in a refugee camp. It's hard there, so when Omar receives an opportunity to go to school, he knows it's a chance to change their future. But he must choose between attending school or looking after his nonverbal brother.



#### LEGEND



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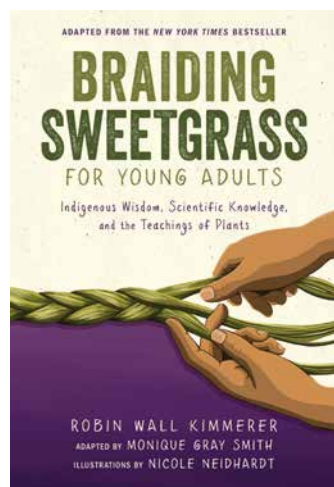
## GRADES 7-9

### Braiding Sweetgrass for Young Adults

By Robin Wall Kimmerer, adapted by Monique Gray Smith & illustrated by Nicole Neidhardt

*Recommended by the Winnipeg Public Library.*

Robin Wall Kimmerer weaves science, Indigenous wisdom, and personal storytelling into a breathtaking celebration of nature. She invites us to listen to the voices of plants and animals, showing how reciprocity and gratitude can heal our relationship with nature.



### Climate Is Just the Start

By Mikaela Loach

In this uplifting guide, activist Mikaela Loach breaks down the climate crisis, sharing real stories of activism from around the globe. From protests to bold conversations with world leaders, Mikaela shows how fighting for the planet is also a fight for justice, kindness, and joy.



### If I Go Missing

By Brianna Jonnie with Nahanni Shingoose & illustrated by Neal Shannacappo

This novel serves as a window into one of the unique dangers of being an Indigenous teen in Canada today. It was inspired by 14-year-old Brianna Jonnie's letter to the Winnipeg Chief of Police.

### Is There a Boy Like Me?

By Kern Carter

London Mitchell looks tough and confident, but inside, he's the opposite. So, he creates an anonymous online comic to reveal his true self. But when it goes viral, London finds himself at the center of conversations regarding what it really means to be a boy.

## GRADES 10-12

### Baddawi

Written & illustrated by Leila Abdelrazaq

Leila Abdelrazaq explores her father's childhood in the 1960s and 70s as he witnesses the world crumbling around him. This is the story of Ahmad, a young boy growing up in a refugee camp in northern Lebanon, who forges his path amidst uncertainty.

### Everything Is Fine Here: A Novel

By Iryn Tushabe

Eighteen-year-old Aine Kamara's story confronts the harsh realities of love, identity, and family in Uganda, a country with severe anti-LGBTQ+ laws. When Aine's sister returns home with her girlfriend, Aine faces conflicting truths about family, faith, and herself.



### Generation Dread: Finding Purpose in an Age of Eco-Anxiety

By Britt Wray

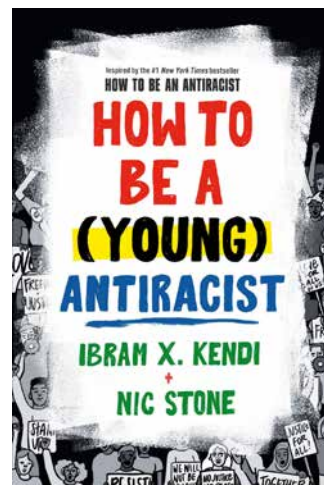
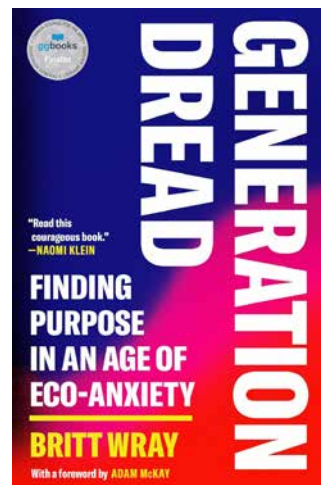
*Recommended by The Starfish Canada.*

A powerful exploration of how climate anxiety is not a weakness, but a sign of deep care and humanity. It illuminates how we can learn from the past, from our emotions, and from each other to survive and thrive.

### How to Be a (Young) Antiracist

By Ibram X. Kendi & Nic Stone

This book places teens at the heart of the conversation on race and justice. This empowering guide equips young adults with personal stories, relatable insights, and practical tools to think critically and take action on the journey toward antiracism.



#### LEGEND



Canadian author



Braille option



eBook/audio



Graphic novel



Non-fiction