



READER. **VOTER.** READY.

INSPIRING FUTURE VOTERS

A BOOKLIST FOR YOUNG READERS

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Birth-PreK

EQUALITY'S CALL THE STORY OF VOTING RIGHTS IN AMERICA

BY DEBORAH DIESEN
ILLUSTRATED BY MAGDALENA MORA
BEACH LANE, 2020
ISBN: 9781534439580

In rhyming text, this picture book tells the story of the slow expansion of enfranchisement throughout U.S. history. Back matter explains voting-related amendments and legislation and names dozens of voting rights activists.

LEO'S FIRST VOTE!

BY CHRISTINA SOONTORNVAT
ILLUSTRATED BY ISABEL ROXAS
KNOPF BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS, 2024
ISBN: 9780593644263

A picture book that explores the voting process, including the lead-up to the

election, and shows that every vote counts. Extensive back matter provides resources for further discovery.

ROCK THAT VOTE

BY MEG FLEMING
ILLUSTRATED BY LUCY RUTH CUMMINS
DIAL BOOKS, 2022
ISBN: 9780593108352

This colorful picture book takes young children through the process of voting for a new class pet and encourages them to "Rock That Vote!" The engaging, yet simple, story uses single, descriptive, illustrated words to capture ballot choices, participant emotions, and even navigate disagreement between voters.

SHOW UP AND VOTE

BY ANI DIFRANCO
ILLUSTRATED BY RACHELLE BAKER
RISE X PENGUIN WORKSHOP, 2024
ISBN: 9780593383773

A girl sporting puffs recalls accompanying her mother to the polling place for a very important job. Seeing neighbors there doing the same, she begins to understand the community's interconnectedness and how looking out for another starts with showing up to vote.



Grades K-2

BECAUSE OF YOU, JOHN LEWIS THE TRUE STORY OF A REMARKABLE FRIENDSHIP

BY ANDREA DAVIS PINKNEY
ILLUSTRATED BY KEITH HENRY BROWN

SCHOLASTIC, 2022
ISBN: 9781338759082

The story of how an unexpected friendship developed between a 10-year-old activist and Congressman John Lewis during a march for voting rights.

THE DAY MADEAR VOTED

BY WADE HUDSON
ILLUSTRATED BY DON TATE

NANCY PAULSEN BOOKS, 2024
ISBN: 9780593615744

Four years after the Voting Rights Act of 1965, Madear brings her two sons along with her when she votes for the first time—an exciting, memorable day.

EVA FOR PRESIDENT (OWL DIARIES #19)

BY REBECCA ELLIOTT

SCHOLASTIC, 2023
ISBN: 9781338880274

In this volume of Owl Diaries, Eva's class is voting for a class president—a cute, accessible way to learn about the voting process.

FREEDOM SUMMER 1964 TURNING POINT FOR VOTING RIGHTS

BY NGERI NNACHI

CAPSTONE, 2024
ISBN: 9781669062097

An overview of the 1964 Freedom Summer movement in which organizers and volunteers protested discrimination against Black voters. The book relays the history of the movement, the results, and why voting rights are still being defended in 2024.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE JUNGLE/ LAS ELECCIONES DE LOS ANIMALES

BY ANDRÉ RODRIGUES, LARISSA RIBEIRO, PAULA DESGUALDO, AND PEDRO MARKUN

TAKATUKA, 2019 (SPANISH)
NANCY PAULSEN BOOKS, 2020 (ENGLISH)
ISBN: 9788417383435 (SPANISH);
9781984814746 (ENGLISH)

Follow jungle animals as they transition from a king to a president with candidates, campaigns, and ballots in this picture book translated from the Portuguese into Spanish and English. Demonstrating ethics with a side of humor, the Rules for the Election include “candidates cannot trade gifts for votes” and “candidates cannot eat their opponents.”

VOTE FOR OUR FUTURE!

BY MARGARET MCNAMARA
ILLUSTRATED BY MICAH PLAYER

SCHWARTZ & WADE, 2020
ISBN: 9781984892805

Stanton Elementary School closes every year on election day to become a polling station. Students research voting and spread the word, along the way encountering many standard reasons adults give for not voting. A fold out spread shows how busy the school is on election day and back matter features the Acts of Congress that have “made the future better.”

THE WALK (A STROLL TO THE POLL)

BY WINSOME BINGHAM
ILLUSTRATED BY E. B. LEWIS

ABRAMS BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS, 2023
ISBN: 9781419747724

As a grandmother and granddaughter begin the long walk through their community to the polling place, neighbors and friends fall in alongside the pair to “show up” and cast their votes. A multigenerational story from a granddaughter’s perspective, offering historical context in spare language.

Grades 3-5

ACT

BY KAYLA MILLER
CLARION, 2020
ISBN: 9780358206354

In this third installment of the Click series, Olive and her classmates prepare for the election of representatives to the student council. While Trent and Sawyer run on a platform to bring back chocolate pudding, Olive focuses her campaign on policies that would make things equitable for students. Back matter on historical protest movements included.

FOR WHICH WE STAND HOW OUR GOVERNMENT WORKS AND WHY IT MATTERS

BY JEFF FOSTER
ILLUSTRATED BY JULIE MCLAUGHLIN
SCHOLASTIC, 2020
ISBN: 9781338643091

Organized around essential questions about how the government and politics function, this accessible nonfiction guide helps demystify the foundations of democracy and build understanding of how to participate in civic life.

HOW MY VOTE COUNTS WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A CITIZEN?

BY JENNIFER KAUL
ILLUSTRATED BY KAREN SAAVEDRA
DK CHILDREN, 2023
ISBN: 9780744077636

Learn about the history of voting in the United States and how to be a good citizen in this informative book.

LILLIAN'S RIGHT TO VOTE A CELEBRATION OF THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965

BY JONAH WINTER
ILLUSTRATED BY SHANE W. EVANS
SCHWARTZ & WADE, 2015
ISBN: 9780385390286

Lillian, on her way to vote for the first time, reflects on her family history and the long fight that was waged for her to exercise her constitutional right.

WE THE PEOPLE!

BY DON BROWN
ABRAMS/AMULET, 2022
ISBN: 9781419757389

Narrated by Abigail Adams, this graphic novel delves into the history and fundamentals of democracy in a kid-friendly, accessible way, citing political structures and ideals from previous cultures and civilizations that helped shape the cornerstones of American democracy.

YOUR VOTE MATTERS HOW WE ELECT THE U.S. PRESIDENT

BY REBECCA KATZMAN
ILLUSTRATED BY ELLEN DUDA
SCHOLASTIC, 2024
ISBN: 9781339046501

This illustrated, step-by-step guide provides readers with an overview of the presidential election process, surveying election eligibility, campaigns, debates, donations, the electoral college, voting, and more.

Grades 6–8

FAULT LINES IN THE CONSTITUTION THE FRAMERS, THEIR FIGHTS, AND THE FLAWS THAT AFFECT US TODAY

BY CYNTHIA LEVINSON AND SANFORD LEVINSON
PEACHTREE, 2017
ISBN: 9781561459452

By tracing current events back to the compromises built into the U.S. Constitution, this book encourages children to critically examine American politics within the context of American civics, history, and government.

GET OUT AND VOTE! HOW YOU CAN SHAPE THE FUTURE

BY ELIZABETH MACLEOD
ILLUSTRATED BY EMILY CHU
ORCA, 2023
ISBN: 9781459828452

An engaging, colorful, and dynamic informational exploration of the impacts of voting on everyday life, providing many ways to show how to vote—and its importance.

REPRESENT THE UNFINISHED FIGHT FOR THE VOTE

BY MICHAEL ERIC DYSON
AND MARC FAVREAU
LITTLE, BROWN, 2024
ISBN: 9780759557062

An engaging history of the continued fight for voting rights, investigating the systematic opposition to women's, Black, Latinx, Asian American, and Native American suffrage, and those who fought—and work today—for freedom.

THANK YOU FOR VOTING THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE OF VOTING, YOUNG READERS' EDITION

BY ERIN GEIGER SMITH
HARPERCOLLINS, 2020
ISBN: 9780062972385

An examination of the history of voting, how to be an informed voter, and how to encourage others to participate in the voting process. Adapted from journalist Erin Geiger Smith's 2020 publication for adult readers.

VOTES OF CONFIDENCE A YOUNG PERSON'S GUIDE TO AMERICAN ELECTIONS

BY JEFF FLEISCHER
ZEST, 2024
ISBN: 9798765611197

An accessible primer about the American electoral system, filled with trivia, anecdotes, and other tidbits.



Young Adults

JANE AGAINST THE WORLD ROE V. WADE AND THE FIGHT FOR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

BY KAREN BLUMENTHAL

ROARING BROOK, 2020
ISBN: 9781626721654

The late, great, Sibert-nominated Blumenthal plunges headfirst into the murky waters surrounding not just the complex history of the Roe v. Wade landmark case but the century in America that led to the ruling.

SHE VOTES HOW U.S. WOMEN WON SUFFRAGE, AND WHAT HAPPENED NEXT

BY BRIDGET QUINN

CHRONICLE, 2020
ISBN: 9781452173160

Quinn's illustrated history of women's suffrage stands out with its inclusive examples and dynamic artwork by 100 women artists, shifting away from the typical stories to include a much richer perspective of history.

THE VOTING BOOTH

BY BRANDY COLBERT

DISNEY-HYPERION, 2020
ISBN: 9781368053297

Marva firmly believes political activism can make a difference; Duke feels obligated to vote because of his family. When Duke gets turned away at the precinct, the two Black teens connect in the attempt to cast their first votes.

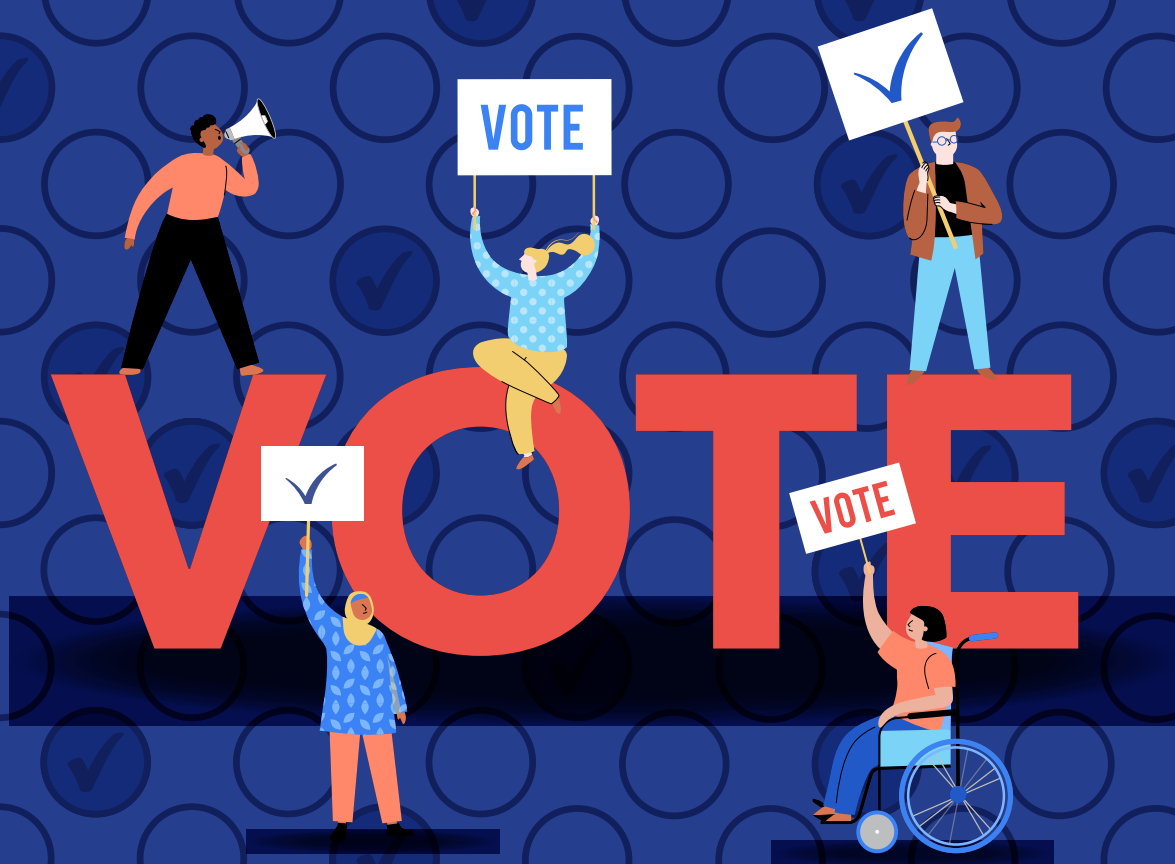
YES NO MAYBE SO

BY BECKY ALBERTALLI
AND AISHA SAEED

BALZER + BRAY, 2020
ISBN: 9780062937049

When they meet canvassing for the summer, politically indifferent Maya is dismissive about Jamie's enthusiasm, while awkward Jamie keeps putting his foot in his mouth about Maya's culture. But despite the miscommunications, a connection starts to bloom.





Compiled by the Quicklists Consulting Committee of the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association, and Booklist Magazine, for the Reader. Voter. Ready. campaign.